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KENT ON SUNDAY

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DUBAI KILLERS USED MY NAME

Builder fears for family after identity theft assassination

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

A KENT-born builder caught up in the Dubai assassination scandal says he fears for the safety of his family.

Paul Keeley, 42, is one of at least six Britons who had their identities stolen by a team wanted in connection with the death of Hamas military commander Mahmoud al-Mabhouh. It has been widely speculated that the Israeli intelligence agency, Mossad, was behind the killing on January 20.

Father-of-three Mr Keeley grew up in the village of Yalding, near Maidstone, where his parents John and Joan still live, but has worked as a home renovator in Israel for more than a decade. He told Israeli reporters he had been "very worried" since the moment he discovered his personal details had been fraudulently used on one of the murder suspects' passports.

Mr Keeley added: "I'm worried for my family. The fact that it was my name that was published in this context makes me worry that someone will try to harm us.



SCARED: Paul Keeley's name was on fake passport with the assassin's image

"I'm waiting for someone to talk to me. I'm afraid. It's scary when someone steals your identity, especially for these sorts of purposes. I haven't left the country since last year when I spent a few days in Turkey. I want answers. My wife is worried, the family is worried and I want to protect the family."

Mr Keeley said he had been flooded with calls from the British media since Tuesday, when police in Dubai issued arrest warrants for 11 "agents with European passports" suspected of murdering Mr al-Mabhouh.

Six of the suspects had British passports, three were Irish, one French and one German. Detectives later said they were hunting for a further six people also believed to have been involved in the killing, bringing the total number up to 17.

It is believed al-Mabhouh was in Dubai to buy weapons for the Islamist Palestinian movement Hamas. It is thought he was throttled and electrocuted.

Mr Keeley said he was in "absolute and total shock" when he found out about the passports, which police said were not fakes despite containing fraudulent information.

It is believed only the photographs and signatures were different.

He said: "When I first heard about this I immediately looked to make sure my passport was still there – and it was. It hasn't been stolen, so I don't know what on earth has happened. Suddenly my life is like an espionage movie. It's all very worrying, but I know I haven't done anything wrong.

"Since I realised they used my identity and name, I've been walking around like a zombie.

Answers

"I don't even know from whom I'm supposed to get answers and if anyone will bother at all to give me an official explanation of what happened."

Mr Keeley's father declined to comment when approached at his Yalding home by a Kent on Sunday reporter.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Gordon Brown announced an inquiry would take place into how the alleged assassins were able to steal the identities of British passport-holders. And after meeting with Israeli

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO



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'I'm worried for my family'

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Ambassador Ron Prosor on Thursday, Foreign Secretary David Miliband said Britain was "determined to get to the bottom" of the scandal.

A spokesman for the Foreign and Commonwealth Office said the defrauding of British passports would be investigated by the Serious Organised Crime Agency (Soca) in close co-operation with the Emirati authorities.

He added: "We are providing support to the British nationals who have been affected by this fraudulent activity. The British Embassy in Tel Aviv is contacting the affected British nationals and stands ready to provide them with the support they need."



MYSTERY: Faces used on fake passports

Saga's solution to home care crisis

AS POLITICAL leaders tussle over the issue of home care for the elderly, an understated personal programme developed in Kent is being rolled out nationwide, ***writes Marijke Cox***.

Aimed at providing domiciliary help for people not meeting eligibility requirements for publicly-funded care, the service by Saga is believed to have the potential to fill a gap left open by strict Government guidelines.

People with moderate needs – such as those struggling to carry out daily routines, but not deemed 'vulnerable' by the Government – do not fit the criteria for publicly-funded care or help from local authorities.

But through Folkestone-based Saga's Independent Living service, the elderly can gain access to moderate care from £14 an hour. Experts hope this will slash the number of people being put into care homes, where fees can run into the thousands each year.

The service provides a full range of domestic care from bathing, showering and assistance with medication to simple tasks, such as shopping and cooking.

Saga, which specialises in services for older people, will be the first big name to offer a nationally available care service of this kind.

Chief executive Roger Ramsden said: "After a significant amount of time spent developing the service we are now formulating a national development strategy.

"Once we have developed our ability to deliver our care services on a national basis we aim to be able to provide solutions to some of the ongoing issues in the sector."

Mr Ramsden said costs would vary depending on locations, but the provision of care would be the same.

"Saga Independent Living offers a range of personal and domestic care in your own home," he said. "We also offer a live-in service and overnight help and sitting service."

Preparations for the nationwide launch come as politicians battle it out over elderly care provision and a dwindling budget.

Concerns within local authorities were raised after ministers announced they were hoping to bring in unlimited free personal care for the elderly, at a cost of between £9m and £22m for Kent County Council.

Cllr Graham Gibbens, cabinet member for Kent adult social services at KCC, argued the plans were "simply not affordable".

He claimed taxpayers would end up footing the bill. The service would only be available for those with greatest need, leaving others who need care but who cannot meet the strict eligibility criteria without support.

Debt crisis

Cllr Gibbens said: "In an ideal world, we would wish to give free personal care at home to as many elderly people as possible. However, it's simply not affordable, particularly since we are in a debt crisis."

Last week, politicians attacked each other in Parliament over care for the elderly, with the Tories questioning Gordon Brown about where money for unlimited free care would come from.

The Tories also atacked the Prime Minister for refusing to rule out a funding scheme to pay for residential care by putting a compulsory tax on death.

But bosses at Saga have taken matters into their own hands and will now see if they can fill the need for private home care.

Visit www.saga.co.uk/health/saga-independent-living/ or call 0800 068 8583 for more details.

News and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

Greece extradition faced by suspects

FIVE men accused of kicking a footballer half to death are to be extradited to face trial in Greece.

Robbie Hughes, 28, was on the verge of signing for Ryman Premier side Bromley FC when, while on holiday in June, 2008, he was attacked with such brutality that his skull caved in.

The crime went unpunished at the time due to a Greek loophole that says offences must be reported within 48 hours, but on Tuesday magistrates ordered the extradition of five suspects. They are: Benjamin Herdman, 20, from Worth, West Sussex; George Hollands, 22, from Reigate, Surrey; and Curtis Taylor, 20; Daniel Bell, 21; and Sean Branton, 20, all from Horley, Surrey.

All have been charged with serious assault along with a sixth man, Joseph Bruckland, 20, of Hookwood, Surrey, whose extradition hearing was adjourned until March 29 for legal reasons.

The suspects were arrested in December after refusing to return to Greece in June for a preliminary hearing.

Stack call to action

A FRESH call for action is being made to help businesses and residents suffering the effects of Operation Stack.

A meeting has been called by Cllr Nick Chard, cabinet member for highways at Kent County Council. The authority will meet with Kent Police, the Highways Agency, Dover District Council, Eurotunnel, Dover Harbour Board and ferry operators.

Cllr Chard said: "The problems in the week before Christmas, when the port of Calais and Eurotunnel were closed, highlighted the need for a new contingency plan."

When Operation Stack is in place, lorries are parked on the M20 between junctions 11 (Hythe) and 12 (Cheriton) and, in extreme cases, between junctions eight to nine, Maidstone to Ashford.

Cllr Chard said the meeting would look into how problems can be avoided in the future.

He shoots, he scores

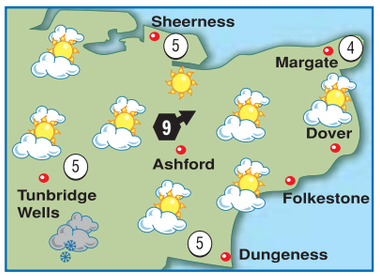
A KENT man has photographed every single football ground in the UK – and it has taken him more than a decade.

Children's entertainer Scott Poleykett has spent his spare time touring the UK with camera in hand. Now he has a unique photo album of 2,456 stadiums, both professional and amateur. The 22-year-old from Maidstone, has notched up 50,000 miles so far and is set to move on to European grounds.

The Ebbsfleet FC supporter said: "It started when we drove past the old Wembley stadium when I was 10 and I wanted to get a picture. It all went on from there."

He has now covered 36 countries, as far afield as Iceland and Morocco, and plans to carry on until he has 1,000 overseas grounds.

Kent today



TODAY: It will be a cold start with a widespread frost. Then, bright for a time with some sunshine but turning increasingly cloudy with showers later. Gentle westerly winds. Less cold. Max temp 4-7C (39-45F).
TONIGHT: Cloudy with rain and drizzle. Moderate south-easterly winds. Min temp 0-3C (32-37F).

Around Britain

		°C	°F			°C	°F
Aberdeen	fair	2	36	London	fair	6	43
Belfast	fair	4	39	Liverpool	fair	5	41
Birmingham	fair	4	39	Manchester	fair	4	39
B'mouth	cloudy	7	45	Newcastle	fair	4	39
Bristol	cloudy	6	43	Norwich	sun	5	41
Cardiff	fair	6	43	Oxford	cloudy	5	41
Cork	fair	5	41	Southsea	cloudy	7	45
Edinburgh	fair	4	39	S'hampton	fair	6	43
Glasgow	fair	5	41	Southport	fair	4	39
Isle of Man	fair	5	41	Swansea	fair	5	41
Leeds	fair	3	37	Torquay	showers	6	43

Sun & moon

Sunrise	6.58am	Sunset	5.21pm	Lighting up times:
Moonrise	9.06am	Moonset	1.02am	5.21pm to 6.56am

High Tides

	today				tomorrow			
	ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)	
Dover	02.34	6.2	15.01	5.9	03.27	5.9	16.04	5.5
Margate	03.40	4.4	16.01	4.1	04.29	4.3	16.56	4.0
St Mary's	08.39	4.8	21.00	4.6	09.33	4.5	22.06	4.4

Week ahead

monday Grey. Drizzly max 6C min 2C
tuesday Some sunshine max 5C min 0C
wednesday Showers max 7C min 1C
thursday Rain later max 7C min 1C
friday Cloudy. Rain max 7C min 1C
saturday Wet. Breezy max 7C min 1C

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Murdered star Rob's dad joins knife blitz

By STEVE KNIGHT
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

THE father of murdered Harry Potter star Rob Knox took to the the streets to talk to children about the devastating effects of knife crime.

Less than two years after his son was stabbed to death outside a bar in Sidcup, Bexley, Colin Knox teamed up with Kent Police on Friday as part of the Government's Tackling Knives Action Programme.

The north Kent operation saw officers meet with youngsters to educate them about knife crime and attempt to steer them away from violence – while prosecuting anyone caught carrying weapons.

Mr Knox has campaigned against knife crime since his son's death in May, 2008, and told KOS Media he would rather see fewer people murdered than more in prison.

He added: "The hardest thing I've had to deal with is the loss of my son, and that's a daily event for me. But within hours of his death, my wife and I knew we had to talk about things publicly because we didn't want anyone else to go through this.

"Knife crime can happen anywhere and to anyone. Rob wasn't a gangland type. He didn't carry a knife or a gun but he somehow got wrapped up with people who did, and now he's gone.





LOSS: Rob with his mother Sally
INSET: Murderer Karl Bishop

"There's no right or wrong way to tackle the problem because everyone wants the same outcome. A lot of agencies and individuals have their own ideas, but if we come in from all angles then one of them might succeed."

Rob, 18, who attended Bexley's Beths Grammar School, died after being stabbed five times outside The Metro bar in Sidcup, on May 24, 2008. He was trying to protect his younger brother, Jamie.

It was later discovered his killer, Karl Bishop, 22 – who will spend at least 20 years in prison – was already known to police as a "habitual knife-carrier" and had a previous conviction for a knife attack on two men.

Later that year, Rob appeared as Marcus Belby in Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince, and he had also signed up to take part in the seventh instalment of the series, The Deathly Hallows.

Friday's police operation, which took place in and around Dartford town centre, was the second phase of Operation Portcullis.

The first took place the previous Friday in Bluewater and Gravesend, with metal detectors and sniffer dogs used to catch people carrying weapons or drugs.

Mr Knox said: "It's all about getting knives off the street. I'm not worried about putting people in prison because that means somebody else has been hurt or killed.

"Operations like this are very important, not only to protect our kids but the police who have to approach these people head-on.

"We've got to stop it happening now and we've got to plan for the future, which is why there should be mandatory lessons in schools about how to behave and how to be a good citizen."

The Government is funding 10 operations in key areas of the UK as part of the Tackling Knives Action Programme.

Home Office minister David Hanson said: "We are determined to rid our streets of serious violence and this sends out a clear message to the small minority of people out to cause trouble that it will not be tolerated."

News and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

A flaming nuisance

A STAGGERING 73 per cent of fires on the Isle of Sheppey were started deliberately during the last 10 months, according to fire chiefs.

Firefighters were forced to divert resources to 202 deliberate fires, including 30 car fires and 32 rubbish fires.

Even accounting for a spate of grass fires last summer, they say the number of deliberate fires is still unacceptable and police have vowed to track down those responsible.

Sheppey fire station manger Mick Durkhin said: "It takes resources away from real fires and puts lives at risk."

COUNCIL tax bills will go up by 2.1 per cent in April – the lowest increase in the history of the charge.

The rise means residents living in Band D properties will pay an extra 41p a week, with annual bills going up from £1,026.27 to £1,047.78.

In return, Kent County Council will pump an extra £6.5 million into supporting vulnerable adults and £5.3m into strengthening children's social services, among other investments.

Leader Cllr Paul Carter said: "With residents facing the impact of the recession, it is more essential than ever to spend public money wisely and deliver good value."

To view, search 'hynotherapy' @ yourkenttv.co.uk



Julie Maddocks reports on a hypnotherapist inundated with people looking for relief from stress due to money worries

Pegg and Corbett lead cast as historic house doubles as Edinburgh

HOLLYWOOD star Simon Pegg and British comedy legend Ronnie Corbett have been at Knole House shooting scenes for a gory new film about body snatchers.

The courtyard at the historic house in Sevenoaks was turned into a 19th century marketplace in Edinburgh for John Landis's black comedy based on the true story of the notorious murderers Burke and Hare.

It features the cream of British acting talent, with Shaun of the Dead-star Pegg as Burke and Andy Serkis, who recently took the best actor award at the Evening Standard film awards for his role as Ian Dury in the biopic Sex, Drugs and Rock and Roll, as Hare.



SIMON PEGG



RONNIE CORBETT

Comedian Bill Bailey and the pint-sized Corbett of The Two Ronnies fame also star.

The cast also includes Tom Wilkinson, who was Oscar nominated for his portrayal of a grief-stricken father in In the Bedroom; and Hugh Bonneville, who was lauded for his performance opposite Kate Winslet in Iris.

Australian actress and former Home and Away star turned Hollywood favourite Isla Fisher also features.

Staff at Knole have excitedly been watching the action since the crew and starry cast arrived last Sunday for four days of filming, which ended on Wednesday.

Melissa Hirst, of the National Trust, which runs the site, said: "It is incredible to see the stable courtyard at Knole transformed into a 19th century marketplace in Edinburgh – it's so realistic. Some interior filming is also taking place to form the backdrop for other scenes. It's been great fun to see how film-making works behind the scenes."

The horror-comedy is being directed by American Landis, whose past work involves classics The Blues Brothers and An American Werewolf In London, as well as Michael Jackson's Thriller video. It is due to be released at the end of this year.

Burke and Hare puts a comic twist on the exploits of the two murderers as they fall into the highly lucrative business of supplying corpses for the medical dissections.

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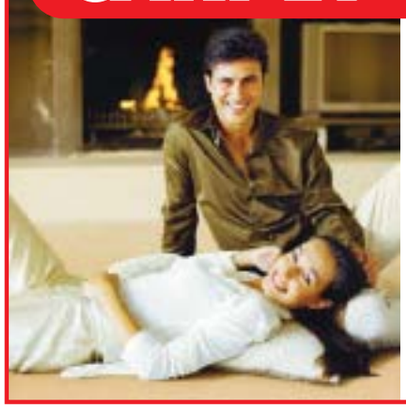


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Tributes to mountain death tragedy Scout



STARK BEAUTY: The Cairngorm mountains in the Scottish Highlands



STEPHEN YOUNG: 'Sheer zest for life'

A TEENAGE Scout leader died falling into a mountain crevasse while on an organised trip to the Scottish Highlands, ***writes Anna White.***

Stephen Young, from Borough Green, near Sevenoaks, was taking part in an annual Scout trip to the Cairngorms when he stepped onto a shelf of snow and plummeted into the void below on Monday.

The 18-year-old was airlifted to a hospital in Fort William from the 3,701ft high cliff circuit on Creag Meagaidh, but was pronounced dead on arrival.

In a statement, Stephen's mother Judy Young, 43, who was also on the trip with her brother Andrew, 46, said: "He meant the world to his whole family and we feel truly blessed to have known him for 18 years.

"Stephen was a unique young man who has clearly touched the lives of so many people. He did everything with enthusiasm and lived life to the full.

"Stephen, you have left a hole in my life that can never be filled. I am the proudest mum in the world and I will love you for ever."

Stephen's grandfather James Young, 70, said: "It's a complete and utter disaster – an awful blow. He was only 18. I can't believe it's happened, it's absolutely horrendous.

"He was very active with the Scouts, very outgoing. These things happen, I'm afraid. At least he died doing something he loved."

Stephen had been in the Scouting movement from the age of six and made headlines in 2007 when he raised nearly £2,500 for Demelza children's hospice by camping out in his garden for a whole year.

Stephen attended Oakwood Park Grammar School, in Maidstone, and then went to Maidstone Girls' Grammar School, Buckland Road, to study his A levels.

Simon Carter of the Scout Association paid tribute to Stephen's "sheer zest for life".

"Stephen was part of an experienced, all-adult group in Cairngorms as part of their annual trip to the region to expand their winter hill-walking skills," Mr Carter said.

"Our thoughts and prayers are with Stephen's family and friends at this sad time."

Since the teenager's death more than 2,100 members have joined a dedicated group on Facebook, where hundreds of messages and memories have been posted.

One reads: "Scouting events won't be the same without you around, mate. Ever since you were born you were a funny, likeable, intelligent and decent bloke. Your mum should be rightly proud of you and your achievements."

The wealth of love shown for the youngster on the site has left Ms Young overwhelmed.

She said: "It's clear from the many messages I've received and those dedicated to him on Facebook that he had many friends.

"I can't believe so many people knew my son. God bless you all for your thoughts and memories. I' ll hold them close."

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Road safety drive

A MONTH-long road safety campaign resulted in police stopping more than 1,600 motorists for a variety of offences.

Officers pulled over 162 drivers for not wearing seatbelts, 74 for speeding, 15 for using mobile phones and 12 for having no licence or insurance. There were also three arrests for burglary, and two for drink-driving.

Chief Insp Preston Chalk said: "This campaign spearheads our ongoing commitment to keep Kent's roads safe."

FAMILIES with disabled children have been invited to a series of information days.

A mini-Olympics is among activities on offer to help spread the word about services available at four weekday and two Saturday events. The days are being held in Swanley, Folkestone, Faversham, East Malling and Birchington. To take part call Partnership with Parents on 01622 350640, or see www.kenttrustweb.org.uk.

To view, search 'testimonials' @ yourkenttv.co.uk



Yourkenttv took to the streets to get readers' feedback about KOS Media's newspapers

Charity will call the tune

AS LEAD singer with chart-topping 1980s band Soul II Soul and mother of X Factor star Alexandra Burke, Melissa Bell knows the music industry well. But since being struck down with kidney failure three years ago, the mother-of-four has been forced to take a back seat as she undergoes intensive dialysis while waiting for a transplant.



Melissa Bell and Alexandra Burke

Speaking daily to Alexandra, who became a household name after winning X Factor in 2008, Ms Bell is well aware of the tough climb to the top and admits to seeing her daughter less and less due to the 21-year-old's busy schedule.

Alexandra, however, is keen to find time to support her mum's new venture Roc Da Mic, which looks to find the country's most exciting music talents. The project will see hopefuls battle it out for a recording contract and a prize of £10,000 in X Factor-style auditions – with one being held at Maidstone's Hilton Hotel on March 28. "The audition will be for the whole of Kent and we're hoping to bring in the crowds and get people performing," said Ms Bell.

"The panel will be made up of industry experts and producers. We won't be harsh like on X Factor, although we'll be honest."

Money from the competition will go to three charities: the British Kidney Patient Association, Marie Curie Cancer Care and the Haiti earthquake appeal. Ms Bell, 45, from London, has been offered a kidney by a man who owns the restaurant where Alexandra performed before she became famous.

Hopefuls will pay £20 to enter, or £25 for a band, which pays for a tutorial worth £45 and a support pack. The finals will be held in London later in the year.

"Alex has said she'll support us once we're on the road," said Ms Bell. "She'll also sing at the final and hopefully JLS will perform too."

To register, go to www.rocdamic.co.uk, email registration@rocdamic.co.uk for an application form or call the helpline on 0207 607 4986.

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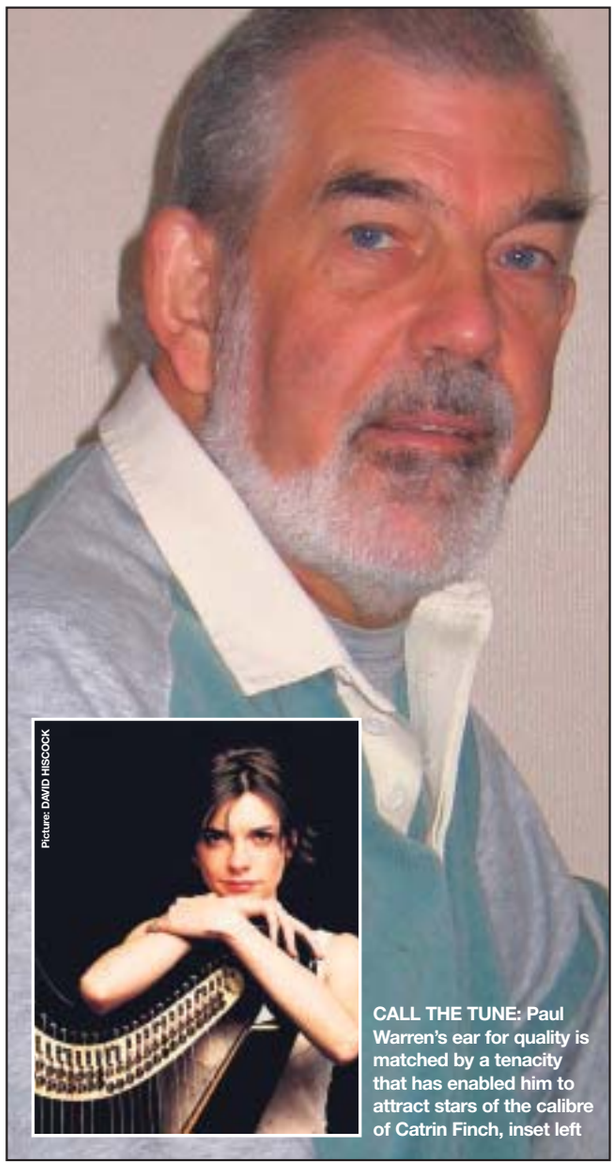
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THE INTERVIEW



BY JANE CONNOLLY



Picture: DAVID HISCOCK

CALL THE TUNE: Paul Warren's ear for quality is matched by a tenacity that has enabled him to attract stars of the calibre of Catrin Finch, inset left

Warren sings the praises of a brass neck

FROM top international musicians to up-and-coming local talent, Paul Warren supports great music at all levels.

As concert manager for St Matthew's Church in Wigmore, Warren has been delighting audiences with high quality events for about three years.

With the mantra 'London quality at local prices', the Medway church has hosted a diverse array of performances and this season continues with a workshop and concert by the National Saxophone Choir on Saturday, March 20.

"Before this present idea, there used to be ad hoc concerts run by members of the congregation, but many were local talent," Warren, 63, said.

"I became involved because I was also a member of the Sittingbourne Orpheus Choral Society and I used to get lots of unsolicited emails.

"I got into a long email conversation with a Russian music director in St Petersburg and when they came to the UK, they asked if they could do a concert at our church, so that was the first non-UK performance."

With its great acoustics, it was clear that the church had lots of potential as a host for both local and higher level artists.

Over the last few years, Warren has developed a certain tenacity which has paid off when approaching musicians.

One of last year's highlights was a visit by top harpist Catrin Finch whom Warren heard on BBC Radio 2.

"We take the chance and just have the brass neck to ask. I heard her on Aled Jones's show and she was great, so I rang her manager and she said yes," he said. "Lots of musicians like what we might consider to be the lesser concerts, because they love the personal contact with the public and it really makes it special."

A similar approach was taken with the remarkable string quartet Raven, who will perform at St Matthew's in October.

But word of mouth is often the way in which Warren, a retired information manager from Rainham, discovers new acts.

"We have a lot of people who come just for the concerts and are not part of the congregation at the church," he said.

"They say, 'have a listen to these', because they now understand what we're aiming for. At that level, there's a lot of personal contact from people who know what we're doing."

Also a member of the Medway-based Kingfisher Singers, Warren encourages people to see the potential of the church as a live venue.

Although the church has received a couple of donations towards the concerts, including a contribution from Medway Council's Central Ward Development Fund, the seasons are mostly funded by ticket sales and Warren is committed to keeping prices affordable for local people.

"Whatever we do, the price is the same. We tell the audience that they are getting top quality acts by supporting the up-and-coming talent."

Tickets for the National Saxophone Choir concert cost £7 and can be booked by calling 01634 372508 or emailing mattsconcerts@hotmail.co.uk.

Admission is free for students and young people, but the box office should be notified.

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Badly behaved boars are in farmers' sights

By MARIJKE COX
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

WILD boar wreaking havoc in the Kent countryside have forced desperate farmers to demand a widespread cull.

The herds are being blamed for killing lambs, destroying crops and, in the worst cases, attacking dogs, as they rapidly expand across the county. Some farmers have admitted to losing thousands of pounds each year as the pigs destroy their crops, with others having to fork out for new fences to replace ones ripped apart by the animals.

And despite wild boar preferring the more wooded areas of the Kent and Sussex borders, an increasing number are now being spotted in eastern parts of the county.

Isabelle Bretherton, from the National Farmers' Union (NFU), said this is unsurprising as they are known to travel large distances.

"Once they have finished eating woodland plants in one area they will quickly move on to another," she said.

Risk of disease, damage to crops and attacks on livestock has pushed the NFU to back calls for management through culling.

"At the moment there is no management and this needs to be looked at," said Ms Bretherton. "Like any wildlife, when the population reaches large levels, culling is sadly required. They shouldn't be wiped out altogether, but numbers need to be controlled."



EXPANDING FAMILY: Rapidly breeding wild boars have made enemies of our farmers

Experts believe there could be more than 500 roaming between Kent and East Sussex.

And without predators such as wolves, the tusked animals are top of the food chain, meaning numbers are not controlled naturally.

Hunting is permitted throughout the year and around 100 landowners have licences to cull them on their land.

Meat stocks from the animals provide butchers with quality, sought-after produce, but those in the agricultural industry still believe numbers need to be managed.

Critics, however, say wild boar add to the rich diversity of the countryside.

Peter Smith, from the Wildwood Trust in Herne Bay, agreed there needs to be some control, but stressed they should not be eradicated completely.

But farmer Jenny Farrant, who runs a farm in Beckley, on the border of Kent and Sussex, said some of her land has been destroyed, losing her around £50,000 over the years.

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs has drawn up a three-year action plan to help rural communities in Kent deal with the problem.

Sheep head quits over web threats

A HEADTEACHER who resigned after allowing the school sheep Marcus to be slaughtered has been the victim of a vicious online campaign, it was claimed.

Andrea Charman stepped down from her role at Lydd Primary School last week, following months of protest after a worldwide media frenzy which left opinion divided over whether young children should have been faced with the decision to slaughter the animal.

But Folkestone and Hythe MP Michael Howard said: "It was the relentlessness of this [internet] campaign, which included threats of violence, which has proved the final straw for Mrs Charman. She has decided the campaign is interfering with her ability to run the school.

"It is a sad day for Lydd and has wider implications for the future of our society."

SS helmet stolen

POLICE are searching for thieves who stole a valuable German SS camouflage helmet.

It was taken from a stall in Main Gate Road, Chatham Historic Dockyard on February 14, at about 11am. It is worth about £1,700.

Anyone with information about this theft can call Kent Police on 01622 690690 quoting reference DY/2550/10, or call CrimeStoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

■ A CHARITY working with rape victims is reeling after a study revealed half of women think victims are to blame for their attack.

Malcolm Gilbert at Family Matters, Gravesend, said: "Jury members are taken from society, if they share this view then we're in trouble."

The Wake up to Rape survey found that 54 per cent of women believe rape victims are responsible for their attack.

For support see www.familymattersuk.org or call the helpline on 01474 537392.



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Kent Police



Our trio aim to trump universal beauty show

KENT has a triple chance of having one of its maidens crowned Miss Universe GB 2010, ***writes Chris Murphy***.

We have three entrants who have made it to the grand final. Raisa Cheema, 18, a care assistant from Gravesend; Orpington's Kimberley Cooper, 21, a student at Roehampton University studying sports science; and Michelina-Lucia Papa, 26, from Southfleet, won through after beating more than 500 other British hopefuls.

The final is at the International Convention Centre in Birmingham on Sunday, May 2. It will help raise cash for the Joshua Foundation, a children's cancer charity which helps terminally ill children have life experiences, day trips, holidays, gifts and memories.

The winner will then take on the best the world has to offer at the global final in the summer.

The contest is run by American tycoon Donald Trump, with the overall winner spending a year in New York living in Trump Tower with a diary full of international engagements.

The Kent girls have to raise money for the charity through sponsorship – last year, the GB winner raised £32,000.

Kimberley said: "I have done some modelling in the past and I love doing it.

"It has mainly been for clothes and underwear, and I would love to do more in other parts of the world.

"Winning this would mean so much to me because I would get to visit other cultures and see different parts of the world.

"I did Miss England last year and got to the semi finals, and won Miss Photogenic UK in November. I also won Miss TW Steel, which is a watch company, in May last year."

Director of Vibe Models, which organises the event, Paula Abbandonato said: "The girls involved in the competition will help to make a difference to the lives of children who have cancer by enabling them to have a break from their treatment to enjoy living and this year we hope to raise at least £50,000 for The Joshua Foundation."



HOPEFULS: Left, Kimberley Cooper, and, above, Michelina-Lucia Papa are two of the county's three representatives

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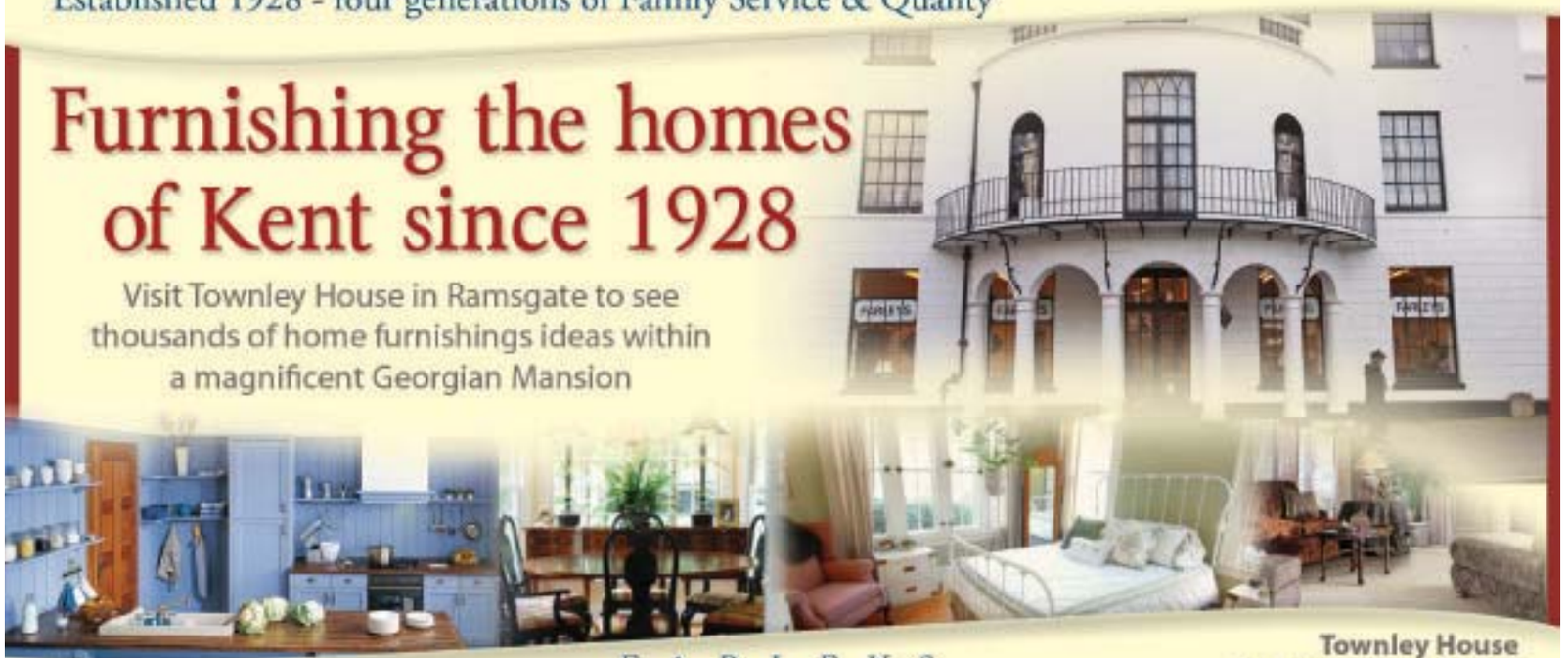
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Pubs minister may be too little too late

By STEVE KNIGHT
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

LEADING names in Kent's pub trade have raised doubts over what the industry's new government minister can achieve just months before the general election.

While welcoming the appointment of John Healey as Britain's first pubs minister, both Shepherd Neame chief executive Jonathan Neame and Thorley Taverns operations director Phil Thorley remain sceptical about a position that may cease to exist if the Conservatives win power.

Mr Thorley said: "It's like winning a penalty after the final whistle has already been blown – too little, too late.

"It's good to see they've finally recognised the industry needs focus, but for me it's just a token gesture in an attempt to win votes.

"There's something like 20 per cent less pubs today than when the Government came in 13 years ago, but they decide to appoint a minister with just months to go before the election. We've had to deal with so many new laws and issues affecting the pub trade. It would take anyone time to understand them all, by the time John Healey does it will be too late for him to do anything about them."

The Thorley Taverns chain consists of 21 pubs in east Kent as well as a number of clubs, restaurants and function rooms.

An estimated 40 UK pubs have closed per week over the past year, with challenges facing the industry including the recession, high rents, the smoking ban, changing consumer habits and cheap alcohol in supermarkets.



RAISE A GLASS: John Healey has been named the first pubs minister

It is understood Mr Healey will consider introducing business tax breaks and relaxed planning laws to help pubs survive, something Mr Neame – chief executive of Britain's oldest brewer – is keen to see come to fruition.

He said: "To have a single point of contact for the industry is extremely beneficial, because previously we would have to deal with different departments for different issues and it was all very dysfunctional.

"But the obvious question is what's he here for and what does he propose to do?

"Essentially the Government's policy on alcohol over the last 15 years has favoured vodka and cider over beer, and nightclubs and supermarkets over traditional pubs, and we would like to see that reversed."

Mr Neame said he had already written to Mr Healey with suggestions of how he could help the pub trade, including freezing beer duty "for a substantial period of time" and offering rates relief for pubs that provide other community services like internet access, public toilets and post offices.

Determined

He added: "Pubs are important community businesses. They are the most controlled environment and rarely suffer the issues of antisocial behaviour you get in nightclubs."

A self-confessed beer lover, Mr Healey is a member of the All-Party Parliamentary Beer group and a regular at pubs in his Wentworth constituency in South Yorkshire.

Talking about his new role, Mr Healey said: "Pubs are often at the heart of community life and important meeting places for many people.

"While we can't stop every pub from closing, it's right we do everything possible to back them. But they need help now, so I am determined to have a deal on the table with a package of practical help in the next few weeks."

Row over booze labels that 'could confuse drinkers'

BRITAIN'S oldest brewer has hit back at Government claims the industry is failing to comply with a voluntary agreement to place health warnings on drinks.

Jonathan Neame, chief executive of Faversham-based Shepherd Neame, said many British firms would continue to avoid such a scheme until it was made clear exactly what was expected of them.

According to a recent report, just 15 per cent of alcoholic drinks provide enough information about units and health risks, with public health minister Gillian Merron describing progress as "very disappointing".

Warnings

She added: "While there should be no need to bring in legislation when the industry can clearly sort itself out, we will not hesitate to act if the industry does not deliver.

"I expect to see much more leadership from more of the major producers."

However, despite Ms Merron's warnings Mr Neame said the onus was on the Government to bring parts of the industry in line with the rest of Europe.

He said: "I don't think the Government has made it clear what the voluntary option is. They're quick to criticise but it's unclear what they want us to do, and there's a deep level of mistrust between the two sides.

Health benefits

"If health warnings on labels is going to become compulsory then it has to be consistent on a Europe-wide basis. We are in favour of improved education, but a unit of alcohol is defined differently throughout the Continent and you could well end up with some very confused consumers.

"There's also the fact that alcohol in moderation has positive health benefits as well, but different countries have different ideas of what safe drinking is."

Illegal dump fine after rubbish fire

A SCRAP metal seller has to pay more than £10,000 after a blaze took hold on land he allowed to be used as an illegal dumping site.

Kevin Harrington, of Moorcroft, Capstone Road, Gillingham, arranged for trucks, vans and skip lorries to dump 30 tons of rubbish at Farthing Woods. The waste was then set alight.

Harrington pleaded guilty to operating an illegal dumping site.

The 54-year-old told the magistrates that he was sorting the rubbish for metal, was unaware he needed a permit and had not started the fire. He was fined £7,500 and ordered to pay £3,942 in costs.

Jobs under threat

PHARMACEUTICAL giant GlaxoSmithKline is planning to close its research and development site near Tonbridge.

The move, which throws the jobs of around 240 people into jeopardy, is part of a range of proposals that aim to save the multinational £500 million by 2012.

A 90-day consultation is now in progress.

A NOISY neighbour had his sound equipment taken away after complaints he was playing music too loudly. Dean Caird, of Alamein Gardens, Dartford, was also ordered to pay a total of £815 after pleading guilty to five counts of breaching a noise abatement notice.

Michael Caines at ABode Canterbury

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THE MOTORISTS' NO.1 CHOICE FOR CROSSING THE CHANNEL

It was a clean sweep for Kent last weekend when three of the county's stars won

Charlie packing her bags for Tinseltown

HOLLYWOOD beckons for jazz performer Charlie Bruce after the talented teen won £100,000 on a BBC talent show.

The 19-year-old from Beckenham outlasted 13 other contestants to come out on top in the first series of So You Think You Can Dance, earning the title of Britain's favourite dancer in the process.



As a result of her victory Charlie will also jet off to California to perform on the American version of the show, which regularly attracts audiences of about 20 million people.

She said: "It's not really sunk in yet, because I've been so busy over the last few days. I've been doing lots of interviews with various people and have been talking to my agent about what's next for me, so it's all been really nice.

"I'm not sure what's going to happen next but it's going to be really exciting.

"I'm going to give some of the money to my parents to say thanks for all my training that they paid for, but I'm going to put the rest away to spend on something further down the line."

The youngest of all the dancers on the show, Leicester-born Charlie almost failed to get past the auditions when the judges – Louise Redknapp, Arlene Phillips, Sisco Gomez and Nigel Lythgoe – found it difficult to decide between her and another more experienced hopeful.

But she made it through and, despite being rescued from elimination in week four, battled her way through to the final against fellow competitors Tommy Franzen and Lizzie Gough.

Pop star Robbie Williams also performed on the decisive show, which saw Charlie dance solo to the Ricky Martin hit Livin' la Vida Loca, and with partners to two other musical arrangements.

After she was declared victorious, Lythgoe told her she was "absolutely the best contestant".

Phillips added: "You have just changed through the night and grown through the series. What you have done tonight is mega, honey. Mega."

Julie Andrews

Charlie first started dancing at the age of seven, and just two years later she was awarded a free scholarship at the former Arts Educational School in Tring, Herts – the same school where Mary Poppins star Julie Andrews was educated.

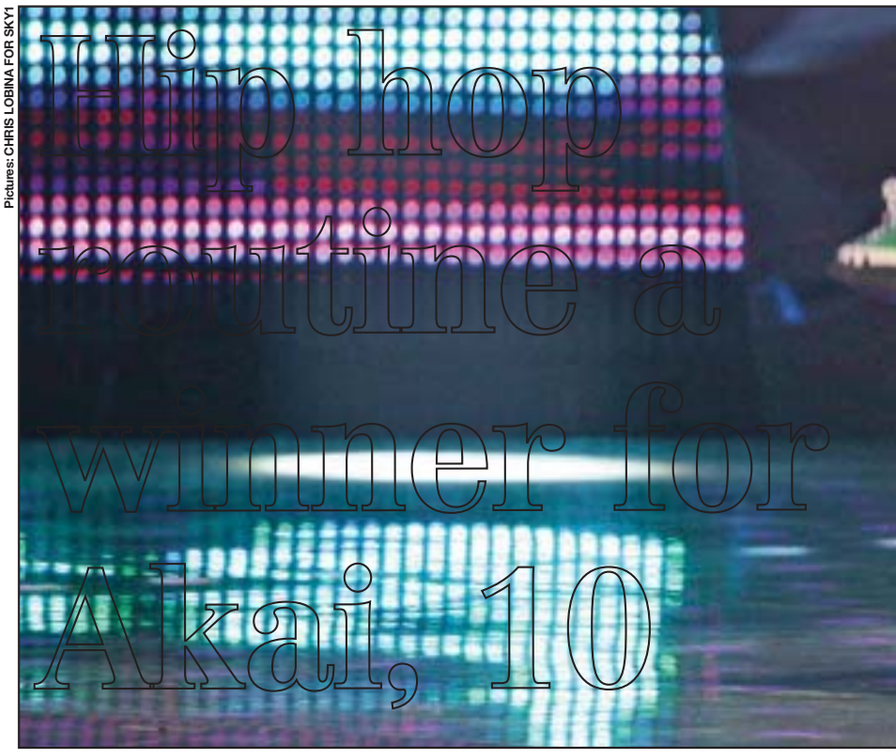
She also spent three years at the Laine Theatre Arts college in Surrey before moving to Beckenham to find work in the West End.

Charlie said: "It was just a shock when they read my name out. I couldn't believe it.

"I didn't really think about winning it during the show. I just wanted to pull off a really good performance and hoped the public would keep me in.

"But the judges were all lovely and I tried to take their comments on board."

Pictures: CHRIS LOBINA FOR SKY1



By **MARIJKE COX**
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

PINT-sized street dancer Akai Osei has scooped £100,000 and the title of UK's best dance act after storming to victory in Sky1's Got to Dance final.

The 10-year-old locked, body-popped and break-danced his way to success in front of judges Pussycat Doll Kimberly Wyatt, Diversity leader Ashley Banjo, and legendary tap dancer Adam Garcia.

Dancing to a mix of hip-hop tunes with added kung fu sound effects, the youngster brought the audience to its feet, including judge Banjo, who had backed the tiny dancer from the start.

After the final six where whittled down to three in a public vote, Akai performed his last crucial dance and was announced the winner by host Davina McCall, beating ballet troupe The Box and hip-hop crew Jukebox Juniors.

Akai told KOS Media he had no idea he was going to win, despite practising his routine continuously every day.

"I can't believe it," he said. "Even when I got through to the final three I didn't think I was going to win.

"I'm feeling great – it's really exciting. My mum and dad are really proud – my mum's still very emotional. I really want to follow dancing as my career."

And speaking of his £100,000 prize, the youngster said he is looking forward to buying a selection of new caps.

Haiti charity

He added: "I'm going to give some of the money to the Haiti charity too."

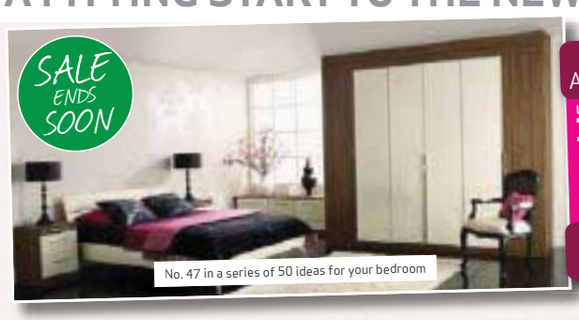
Despite being one of the youngest solo contestants to compete in the national competition, Akai, who has only been attending a dance school for a year, impressed the judges from the start.

His first audition saw him put through to the semi-finals with little deliberation between Wyatt, Garcia and Banjo, and the public voted him through to the finals.

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TV talent shows. They explain why we'll be seeing a lot more of them in the future



He was named as bookies' favourite alongside freestyle dancer Emily Crow, 11, who failed to get one of the final three places on Sunday night.

Banjo, the leader of Britain's Got Talent winners Diversity, said Akai is a better dancer than he was at the same age.

He said: "He and his family should be so proud.

"He sums up this competition, he's not professional, he has only been dancing for a year and he is only 10 years old, but he has just got to dance and he beats me hands down."

Fellow judge Wyatt said Akai was "on point to the max" and Garcia said the youngster was "born to dance".

Host McCall said she was thrilled for Akai and asked him to teach her some of his moves.

Got to Dance visited 14 cities in the UK to seek out the best dance crews, troupes and solo dancers.



EXCITING: Akai Osei, 10, was voted the UK's best dance act

Ben scores with Inter

TALENTED teenage soccer player Ben Greenhalgh has earned a contract with Italian giants Inter Milan after winning the Sky1 reality show Football's Next Star, ***writes Steve Knight.***

Manager Jose Mourinho was among those with high regard for the 17-year-old Orpington schoolboy, who impressed in training matches against the likes of Patrick Vieira, Javier Zanetti and Samuel Eto'o.

Ben's victory represents a major turnaround in his football career, as just a year ago he was preparing to pull on the boots for Blue Square South side Welling United.

He said: "My goal this season was to force my way into the Welling first team and perhaps be recognised by a League One or Two club, but the position I'm in now with Inter Milan is a massive step up and I'm delighted.

"The competition was getting better every week, so it was actually a relief when they told me I had won."

The seven-part show, which also featured Sky Sports pundit Jamie Redknapp, saw the former Darrick Wood School pupil progress through a South East qualifying stage before beating off nine other young talents to land the title of Football's Next Star.



Picture: GARY PRIOR

POTENTIAL: Ben Greenhalgh on the pitch with French star Patrick Vieira

Filming was completed in October, but Ben was unable to reveal he had won until after last Sunday's finale.

He said: "Only my family and close friends knew, but I had to tell people at Welling and at my school too, so it was difficult to stop it getting out.

"I officially joined Inter on January 17. It's been fine in Italy so far, mainly because every couple of months I get to come home for a few days."

Despite earning a one-year reserves contract with the 17-time Italian champions, Ben has no guarantees that he will play for the first team.

But should he fulfil his early potential, the left-winger will join the likes of Gerry Hitchens and Paul Ince as one of only a few Englishmen to have ever walked out in the club's famous blue and black shirt.

Ben's contract runs until the end of June, at which point Inter will make a decision on his future.

He said: "I think the chances of me playing for the first team are quite high, as long as I continue to work hard. If I do well, I can't see why they wouldn't give me a chance."

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Brewster chugs Charlie's voice around the world



RIGHT TRACK: Chuggington chums

A TALENTED youngster has become a global hit as one of the characters in an animation series likened to a modern-day Thomas the Tank Engine.

Charlie George, from Canterbury, has been recording a new series of Chuggington, the UK's third highest rating children's show of all time.

The series was launched on BBC Two in September, 2008, and has since been sold to 170 countries and was relaunched on CBeebies in 2009.

And 12-year-old Charlie is one of the talents behind its success, providing the voice for a train called Brewster – one of the three main characters.

The Canterbury High School pupil has just finished recording the second series and is awaiting news of a third.

He said: "I do about two to three hours of recording and that is taken away to be put with the animation. If there are any bits to be redone – for example, if something needs to be said in a more exciting way – then I'll re-record it."

Industry experts believe the show will become as popular as the much-loved Thomas the Tank Engine series.

Charlie said: "I really enjoy doing this work, but I'm a little worried my voice may break soon. It's going to happen, but I'm hoping I'll still have quite a high voice, because I also do the voice for Jess in the animation Guess With Jess."

Charlie has just finished a run in the West End musical Oliver! and has appeared in TV shows including Casualty.

He said: "I love doing this, but it can be quite stressful at times. The hardest part is not always seeing my friends and it can be tiring when I have schoolwork to do as well."



STAR: Charlie George

Visa rules alarm language schools

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

A CLAMPDOWN on foreign students entering the UK has sparked fears of a huge drop in numbers at Kent's language schools, colleges and universities.

Under new Home Office rules designed to reduce abuse of the system, visa applicants must now be able to speak a higher level of English before being allowed to stay.

But while many are pleased the Government is cracking down on those who pretend to be students and instead find jobs, further education bodies in Kent rely heavily on foreign intakes and are concerned.

Peter Worley, principal of Hilderstone College in Broadstairs, said: "I'd have thought every language school in the country and all the universities are aghast at these proposals.

"It's akin to dealing with an outbreak of weeds by bulldozing the garden. The Government is putting the language school industry at risk because it can't organise its legislation properly.

"Alan Johnson [the Home Secretary] says students wishing to study English must first have a good grasp of English, which is absurd.

"It's like saying you can't learn to drive unless you have already driven; or can't learn the trumpet until you have a good grasp of it."

Terrorism

Currently, anyone who successfully applies for a student visa can travel to the UK and work legally for up to 20 hours a week.

Under the new rules, applicants from outside the EU will have to speak English at a level just below GCSE standard, rather than beginner level as at present.

Those taking courses below degree level will also only be allowed to work 10 hours a week.

It is hoped the legislation will also reduce the threat of terrorism, but North Thanet Tory MP Roger Gale said: "The Home Secretary has ignored cross-party warnings that his proposals will damage the interests of language schools, colleges and universities while doing nothing to address the real problem, which is illegal immigration and economic migration under the guise of seeking asylum.

"Kent is already suffering as agents placing students are choosing locations other than the UK because of the uncertainty.

"We need to control immigration, but we need to remember foreign students are worth a great deal to our economy, in the short and long term, as graduates return to do business in Britain."

Most language schools are located along the south coast, with east Kent a particular hotspot.

The sector is worth about £1.5 billion to the economy, and Margate Language Centre principal Jon Burton said he was "shocked, disappointed and bemused" that it was being put at risk by the new legislation.

He said: "The Government seems to be confusing people coming here to learn English with terrorists and economic migrants, which seems absurd.

"It's not just the schools that will miss out, it's Kent as a whole. Foreign students just won't bother coming, yet they are an important part of the economy of the county."

Discouraging

Professor Julia Goodfellow, vice-chancellor of the University of Kent, said she didn't think the legislation would affect applicants.

She said: "The new policy not an issue for universities as we have quite strong criteria anyway.

"We have students from 140 countries at the university and I'm not expecting a reduction, but we are concerned about discouraging legitimate students who might think it's too much bother to come to the UK."





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Shocking new research prompts rallying cry to improve the fate of ghost town

Seaside resort's not dead and buried yet

By **MARIJKE COX**
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

ALAN Sugar's apprentices tried to re-brand it, Tracey Emin recommended it for a perfect dirty weekend, and great train robber Ronnie Biggs vowed to go back there for a pint before he dies.

But new research has found Margate to be the official ghost town of Britain – one of the country's worst casualties of the recession.

Findings showed more than a quarter – 27.2 per cent – of shops have shut down since 2007, leaving the high street with boarded up windows and shutters firmly closed.

Even the more popular shops like Primark, which the town relies on to draw in the crowds, are relocating to Westwood Cross shopping centre, just outside Broadstairs.

Hope for the future lies with the £17.4 million Turner Contemporary gallery, which will celebrate the work of artist JMW Turner and his love of the town.

Paul Clark, head of operations and resources at the gallery, believes it will do for Margate what the Guggenheim Museum did for Bilbao in Spain.



Picture: TOM BETTS

DESERTED: Many shops are empty and people are scarce on Margate High Street

"It will provide a new visitor experience and bring people back," he said. "Margate is ripe for investment – I'd say give it a decade and it will be like Brighton, where it is impossible to buy property due to its popularity."

Mr Clark said the creative crowd has always flocked to Margate and they could be vital to turning the town around.

"You sometimes find artists and designers are risk-takers," he said. "If we can get them to come here and invest and buy property the place will begin to thrive again.

"We've got to get people to spend money in Margate. It doesn't matter whether this is in restaurants, the old town or the gallery, as long as there is money coming in it will help bring the town back to life."

And Mr Clark said people need to start being positive about Margate.

"If you talk something down enough people will start to believe it. People need to start being proud of their town so others will, too.

"We're in one of the worst recessions since the 30s. The problems in Margate have been exacerbated by this, but once the economy picks up, it will hopefully thrive again."

Despite the boarded-up shops, people involved in Margate's regeneration are confident they can get it back on its feet.

Derek Harding, director of the Margate Renewal Partnership, said projects such as the Turner and the creation of the world's first historic amusement park at Dreamland will attract a million more visitors to the town.

He added: "We know empty shops aren't inviting, which is why we started Windows of Opportunity. Local artists came up with designs highlighting the types of shop people wanted to see in the town.

"That's led to some really positive coverage, as far a field as Germany and New York."

Designer Zoe Murphy, 24, who creates bespoke furniture based on the seaside town, said part of its charm is its grittiness.

"It's still an optimistic town with great architecture and character. I think there is immense potential to turn things around."

From Emin with love

CONTROVERSIAL artist Tracey Emin has been commissioned by the Turner Contemporary to create a "sexy" new masterpiece.

The work, entitled I Never Stopped Loving You, will consist of pink neon text and will be installed on the façade of Droit House in Margate from April.

Emin said it will be a show of love and affection for the town where she grew up.



Tracey Emin

"This neon is for everyone who knows that Margate is a truly beautiful place," she said. "I first came up with the idea of using neon for Margate quite a few years ago.

"The first time it was refused by the council.

"I'm very happy to see Margate is welcoming back neon. I feel it's a shame the Golden Mile has lost its lighted crowning glory – Margate needs neon to bring it back to its former glory."

The piece is being dubbed a 'love letter' to Emin's home town and will mark the countdown to the completion of the Turner Contemporary gallery, which will open in 2011.

It will be in her own unmistakable hand and will combine two aspects of Emin's art – drawing and the written word.

She added: "I like neon because it's moving constantly and I like drawing.

"The chemicals going through the neon really turns me on – it's sexy."



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FORMER ENEMIES: The Messerschmitt, and below, the Spitfire

Spitfire roars back

TWO iconic Battle of Britain aircraft will return to the skies above Kent this year for the War and Peace Show.

The popular annual event will be held at The Hop Farm in Paddock Wood just weeks after the celebrations marking the 70th anniversary of the turning point of World War Two.

The county's Spitfire fighter Spirit of Kent and the German Messerschmitt 108 will take to the skies on Sunday, July 25.

Show organiser Rex Cadman said: "It will be good to hear the throaty roar of the Spitfire, particularly in such an important year, when we are celebrating the most significant event in the history of the RAF.

"The aircraft's appearance at the War and Peace Show is a tribute to the courageous airmen whose skill and determination played a crucial role in turning defeat into victory.

"The return of the Messerschmitt 108 provides a rare opportunity for people to see a German wartime aircraft in action.

"This machine was not a fighter, in the style of its sister aeroplane the Messerschmitt 109, but these machines were very much in the frontline, serving on fighter squadrons in the communications role."



Paul Campbell, of the Kent Spitfire, which has arranged the War and Peace Show display, said: "Both aircraft will be in authentic wartime livery and looking their best for such an important anniversary year."

Heroics of The Few to be remembered

By **MIKE BENNETT**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

A SERIES of spectacular events will take place in Kent this summer to mark the 70th anniversary of the greatest air battle in history.

The Battle of Britain, which was fought in the skies above the county, heralded a major turning point in Word War Two.

Finest hour

Without aerial dominance, Hitler's Nazis were prevented from mounting a planned invasion of Britain, stemming the tide of the German advance across Europe in 1940.

From his home at Chartwell, near Westerham, Prime Minister Winston Churchill dubbed the battle Britain's "finest hour".

To celebrate the 70th anniversary of the triumph, Biggin Hill Air Fair is planning an airfield attack and aerial display in June, and a major event will be staged at the National Memorial to the battle at Capel-le-Ferne, near Folkestone, in July.

The county's Spitfire, The Spirit of Kent, will also soar above the War and Peace Show at the Hop Farm in Paddock Wood in July.



VICTORY: Wartime leader Winston Churchill praised the fighter pilots

The Battle of Britain raged over Kent from July 10 until October 31, 1940, with brave RAF pilots winning spectacular dog-fights, despite being completely outnumbered by the German Luftwaffe.

In a rousing address from Chartwell, Churchill declared in August, 1940, that: "Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few."

The four months of intense aerial dogfights were fought above Kent to win dominance of the skies and also to protect London from Nazi attacks.

There were 71 squadrons within RAF Fighter Command, and the airmen known as 'The Few' came not only from Britain but also Poland, France, Belgium, Australia, Canada, New Zealand and South Africa.

A major celebration of the 70th anniversary of the triumph is planned for July 11 this year at the National Memorial at Capel-le-Ferne, on the cliffs between Folkestone and Dover.

Pyrotechnics

The most famous RAF fighter station at Biggin Hill airfield, which is now an airport near Westerham, will commemorate the anniversary at its 47th annual Air Fair on June 26-27.

Events will include a spectacular airfield attack enhanced through sound, pyrotechnics and giant screens, to help create the summer of 1940.

It will host a great number of Spitfires, Hurricanes and other key aircraft from the battle and has invited representatives and aircraft from the Allied nations to join the commemorations.

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Knife attack thug jailed four years

A DRUNKEN thug has been jailed for four years after stabbing a Gillingham pub landlord.

Paul Andrew Whibley, of Birling Road, Snodland, was sentenced at Canterbury Crown Court after pleading guilty to wounding with intent.



JAILED: Knife yob Whibley

The court heard how the 24-year-old had been drinking in the Britannia Inn in Gillingham High Street on Monday, January 25, but was asked to leave after an argument.

Whibley left and was followed by the landlord. He then pulled a knife and stabbed his 42-year-old victim once in the stomach.

Whibley fled but was arrested the next day. His victim was left with a one-inch wound.

Mayor's MBE stolen

AN MBE and mayoral regalia have been stolen from a former mayor of Tunbridge Wells in a raid on his home.

Distinctive items taken from David Kirby include mayoral medals, both showing the borough's coat of arms.

One is on a blue ribbon, the other on a chain. Both are engraved with the year of office, 1987-88.

The burglary took place in Iden Green, near Cranbrook, on January 24, between 5.45-10.45pm.

As well as the MBE awarded to Mr Kirby, an engraved Tissot watch and a station-style oak clock, with the word Crowborough on the face, were taken.

Det Con Graham Norman said: "The items are of sentimental value and little use to anyone else. If anyone is able to provide information, I would like to hear from them."

Contact police on 01732 379217, or the confidential Crimestoppers line on 0800 555111.



THAT WAS THEN: An early KAB project for the county's children



THIS IS NOW: A KAB sports day held for youngsters in 2009

Picture: CAROL WHITE-GRIFFITHS

Blind charity's Great War anniversary call

RELATIVES of soldiers blinded in World War One have been invited to help mark a charity's 90th anniversary.

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

Kent Association for the Blind (KAB) was formed in the living room of a house in Sittingbourne on June 22, 1920, and to this day continues to help thousands of people suffering from either partial or complete sight loss.

But the earliest beneficiaries were survivors of the Great War who fell on hard times after returning from the trenches with appalling injuries to their eyes, caused by explosions, shrapnel and mustard gas.

Head of fundraising Charles Marshall said: "The number of ex-servicemen suffering from severe sight loss was staggering really, to the extent that the Government decided something needed to be done and passed the Blind Persons Act.

"It was quite common at the time to see homeless people in town centres who couldn't work because they couldn't see.

"The response in Kent was to bring together all the voluntary groups, who formed what was then called the Kent County Association for the Blind.

"I think the county council set aside 10 shillings for every visually-impaired person, but they apparently didn't anticipate the level of demand because that wasn't enough.

"In those days it was all about providing social support and company to people who couldn't work."

Mr Marshall wants to hear from any relatives of soldiers helped by the charity so he can compare their experiences with those of their modern counterparts.

Today, KAB caters for more than 15,500 people across Kent – including Medway and Bromley – providing help and support to people of all ages and at any stage of their sight loss.

Among its service network are six rehabilitation teams dotted around the county, more than 80 social clubs, a talking newspaper and a training degree for professionals.

Mr Marshall said: "What's interesting is that the charity today still reflects the way it was set up, because one of the things agreed was that it should mobilise voluntary support and today we have more than 900 volunteers.

Fascinating

"We're now in our 90th year and I thought it would make for a fascinating piece of research if we could compare the service the original soldiers received to what our clients do today. It would show how life has changed and how things have developed. In Kent things have moved on a great deal."



MODERN TIMES: An art and craft day held by KAB

Based in College Road, Maidstone, Mr Marshall said he was in no doubt that the charity would still be around in 90 years' time.

He added: "This is really the start for us, but there's a great deal of work that still needs to be done for visually-impaired people."

• Call Mr Marshall on 01622 691357 if you know of any soldiers helped by KAB after World War One. Alternatively, write to Kent Association for the Blind, 72 College Road, Maidstone ME15 6SJ.



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Exam drive targets gypsy pupils

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

GYPSY and traveller children are being targeted by education chiefs as part of the ongoing drive to improve exam grades.

Kent County Council plans to narrow the gap in results by improving access to early-years schooling, teaching parents about the benefits of their children going to school, and encouraging headteachers to celebrate traveller traditions, among other strategies.

There are now 238 Romany gypsy and Irish traveller children studying in Kent schools, but their grades are generally low and absence rates high.

Deputy cabinet member for education Cllr Jenny Whittle told KOS Media it was important pupils of all backgrounds were given an equal chance of success.

Shocked

She said: "What really shocked me was that two years ago not one single Romany gypsy or Irish traveller child achieved five A* to C grades at GCSE including English and maths. The key thing is to make sure we look at what we can do in terms of attainment and behaviour. We need to get as many of them into school as possible because the absence rates are far too high.

"Many gypsy and traveller families prefer to keep their children at home so we need to do as much as we can to build up trust with them, because if we don't we have a problem."

Of the 238 gypsy children in Kent schools, 63 are in secondary education. The majority are Romany (54), with just nine Irish travellers. There are a total of 167 in primary schools and eight in special schools.

According to a KCC report, the majority of schools have fewer than 10 gypsy and traveller children on the roll, although in some urban areas – predominantly Thanet and Gravesham – some primaries contain as many as 30.

Joe Jones, director of the Canterbury Gypsy Support Group and vice-chairman of the international Gypsy Council, said the move to improve children's grades was "overdue".

He added: "There are one or two schools in Kent that are really working well with the gypsy community and the kids are doing well within the education system, but there's much more that needs to be done.

"The vast majority of gypsy children do attend schools but tend not to stay on at a higher level. A lot want to get on and earn money, and this is something that needs to be changed. Children need an education to get on in the world."

According to the Schools' Census, the absence rate for gypsy and traveller children in the autumn 2008 term was 16.2 per cent and 20.4 per cent respectively, compared with just 6.1 per cent for all Kent pupils.

The gap was much wider for persistent absence, with 24.6 per cent for gypsies and 27.6 per cent for travellers compared with 4.4 per cent for all Kent pupils.

Mr Jones said: "If you're learning about everyone else's culture but nobody is learning about yours, you're obviously going to be put off and that's where the education system goes wrong.

"It caters for everyone but the gypsies."

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The Saturdays, but on a Friday

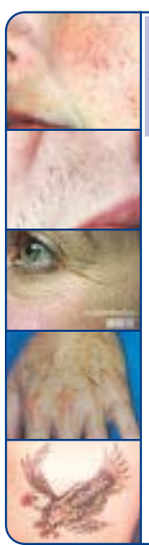
THE Saturdays have been confirmed as the fourth and final act for this year's Rochester Castle concerts.

The five-piece pop group – famed for hits such as Forever Is Over, Ego and Just Can't Get Enough – will perform on Friday, July 16.

Veteran rockers Status Quo will get the concerts under way on Wednesday, July 14, before Will Young performs on Thursday, July 15.

The concert series will be brought to a close by the Royal Philharmonic Concert Orchestra on Saturday, July 17.

Concert tickets, which range from £29.50 £35 are available on 01634 338338 or online at www.castleconcerts.co.uk.


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ON THE LINE: Some of the new chief constable's biggest hurdles will be financial

Next top officer's budget challenge

THE next chief constable of Kent has been warned to expect one of the greatest financial challenges ever experienced by the force, ***writes Steve Knight***.

Potential recruits are already requesting application forms for the top job, but the body responsible for appointing Mike Fuller's replacement is predicting tough times ahead.

Kent Police Authority – which also sets out the policing plan and is responsible for holding the force to account – says it will lose £20 million from its budget over the next few years, and the new chief constable must be prepared for cutbacks.



DEPARTURE: Mike Fuller

Speaking exclusively to KOS Media, treasurer David Lewis said the authority was preparing for the worst, regardless of which party wins this year's general election.

He added: "We've got to start addressing this now. There's going to be a new Budget after the general election and we can safely assume it's not going to be good news.

"At some point the economy will recover, but public finances will lag a long way behind because we have so much debt now.

"It's not going to be easy or comfortable and the public isn't going to accept us making cuts when they see that the economy is recovering, so that's a challenge for us.

"In fact this is one of the biggest challenges any of us have ever faced, but nobody can hide here. There are no sacred cows and all of our working practices are subject to review.

"We're going to have to start again with a blank piece of paper."



SAVINGS: Mark Gilmartin

Last week the authority announced the policing part of the council tax would increase by 2.99 per cent – or an extra £4 per year – and that neighbourhood policing could continue at the same level as a result.

The budget for 2010-11 will be £285m, last year it was £277m.

Despite the anticipated cuts, Mr Lewis said he was not expecting redundancies and any job losses would be met by natural wastage.

Chief executive Mark Gilmartin said the chief constable would be expected to help deliver savings, such as by continuing the collaboration with Essex Police and finding new ways for the two forces to work together.

He added: "There's the potential for a new chief constable to come in and really stamp his or her mark on things here, and that's going to be a significant factor in terms of how we respond to these problems.

"The sort who will go for this job will be highly professional, intelligent people, so if you're put off by the challenge, you're not the right person to be our chief constable."

Mr Fuller announced his retirement from the force earlier this month after his appointment as the new chief inspector of the Crown Prosecution Service.

Kent Police Authority started advertising for his replacement on February 5 and must accept applications for a minimum of three weeks.

Mr Gilmartin said he expected up to a dozen of the country's most senior officers to apply, with Deputy Chief Constable Adrian Leppard the only member of the Kent force qualified enough to apply.

The authority would need special permission to appoint Mr Leppard, because the rules state he should have held a senior position outside the county to be eligible for the job. Mr Leppard will stand in as chief constable when Mr Fuller leaves next month.

Home Secretary Alan Johnson and a senior appointments panel made up of senior figures from he justice system will both have the opportunity to cast their eyes over the final shortlist, with a decision due to be made "as soon as possible after May 20".

A period of negotiations will then follow with the successful candidate's current employer, with his or her appointment being made public by the summer.

Mr Gilmartin said some of the key challenges the new chief constable will face include reducing crime rates and complaints against the police, and improving crime detection rates, public confidence and officer visibility.

He added: "I would say his or her most important role is ensuring the public receives the best service possible. We can't escape the budgetary climate, but service must always be a priority.

"That means everything from tackling antisocial behaviour right the way through to how the force deals with serious and organised crime and homicides.

"The new chief constable will have to be able to deal with all the challenges that are thrown at him or her."

• ***The authority has a new website at www.kentpoliceauthority.gov.uk and is inviting the public to join its Facebook group and view its videos on YouTube.***

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WIN tickets to the Kent Game and Equine Festival

THE Kent Game and Equine Festival is one of the first of the great regional game fairs in the calendar.

The festival returns on the weekend of March 27-28 at the Kent Showground, Detling, Maidstone.

The show is a celebration of countryside life, from fishing and shooting to traditional crafts and food. With the exciting addition of an equine arena for 2010, it offers visitors the ultimate countryside experience.

This long established event, which attracts more than 10,000 visitors annually, will introduce international show jumper Geoff Billington to the new indoor equine arena, which will also feature stallion parades and the Pony Club horse and hound show jumping challenge.

The show hosts a countryside shopping village and provides a wonderful mix of have-a-go activities, fascinating demonstrations and educational insight – this event is the perfect opportunity to fulfil and expand any countryside interest you may have.

KOS Media has 15 family tickets to give away for this fantastic show. To enter the competition, simply answer the question below and send your entry on a postcard along with your email address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to Kent Game and Equine Festival Competition, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.

The closing date is March 10, 2010.

Question: The Kent Game and Equine Festival is on which dates?

No purchase necessary. For our full terms and conditions see www.kentnews.co.uk, or call 01303 817073.

If you do not wish to receive any literature please write 'no literature' on your entry.

If you're not lucky enough to win you can book tickets at www.contour.uk.net or call 01749 813899.



Marines fighting for Paralympic glory

By **NICK AMES**
nick.ames@kosmedia.co.uk

THE campaign to fund Royal Marines wounded in action to take part in the Paralympics has received its first donation – a cheque for £20,000.

Kent county councillor Alan Marsh handed over the money to fundraiser Brigadier Charlie Hobson as the appeal was launched.

Along with the cheque, presented by Kent County Council on behalf of the people of Kent, was a sealed bucket with coins and notes donated by local authority employees.

Cllr Marsh said: "The appeal is to enable those returning service people who have been injured and received artificial limbs to train for the Paralympics of 2012.

"They are young people in the prime of their lives, with immense will to succeed. We want them to bring home a gold medal or two."

Speaking about the bond between the county and the Royal Marines he said: "As far as Kent is concerned you (the Marines) are ours and we most definitely are yours".

Brig Hobson added: "The determination and the sense of humour of the Royal Marines is well known.

"This appeal will enable those who have sacrificed so much for their country the further chance to go for glory in the field of sport."



MEDALS: Could you help get wounded Marines to the Paralympic Games?

The reception at Deal's Royal Marines Association Club was attended by serving Armed Forces personnel, veterans and cadets.

Alongside them was Peter Dunning, a marine who lost both his legs serving in Afghanistan – but is now training to take part in the Paralympics scheduled for 2014 in Russia as a downhill skier.

He said: "When I was laying in hospital I expected nothing more than possibly a handshake and a 'well done' from one of the officers.

"Now I am part of this campaign and looking forward to being part of a Paralympic skiing team.

"This sort of appeal gives something back to those who have lost so much. It shows that people do care and understand the sacrifices made by members of the Armed Forces."

To donate to the charity go to www.royalmarinesassociation.org.uk then 'donations page'.

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When and Why?
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GP

When and Why?
Make an appointment with your local GP surgery when you have an illness or injury that will not go away this winter. For details of your nearest GP surgery call **0845 46 47** or visit **www.nhsdirect.co.uk**

Pharmacist

When and Why?
Visit your local pharmacy when you are suffering from a common winter health problem which does not require being seen by a nurse or doctor. For details of your nearest pharmacy call **0845 46 47** or visit **www.nhsdirect.co.uk**

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When and Why?
Contact NHS Direct if you are ill and have any questions about health. The service can also help you to find health services in your local area.

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KENT ON SUNDAY

COMMENT

Paul's passport to a nightmare

A HIT squad steals the identities of six Britons living in Israel and plans the assassination of a Hamas official in Dubai.

Donning wigs, fake beards and sports gear, they pose as guests of the hotel their victim is staying at before moving in for the kill. One could be forgiven for thinking it was the plot for a new Frederick Forsyth novel, but for 42-year-old Paul Keeley it is all too real.

The builder, originally from Yalding, near Maidstone, was unwittingly dragged into the centre of an international murder plot this week and has been left fearing for his life and the welfare of his family.

He has asked why and how he was selected to become the identity of one of the hitmen – and waits to see whether he will ever get an explanation.

Unlike a spy thriller, Mr Keeley is unable to turn to the back pages to see what happens.

He will have to wait for the Government to find out how his passport identity was stolen from under his nose, turning his life upside down and thrusting him into the spotlight.

Three star turns

KENT really does have talent – or so viewers think. Three finalists in three different TV talent shows returned victorious as best footballer, best dancer and favourite dancer.

Through the tears they managed to thank us mere mortals at home for our support.

Let's hope they're as quick to remember us once they reach the dizzy heights of stardom.

OPINION: Stretching the Green truth

Ian Taylor rebuffs current theories of climate change and renewable energy



THE Greens have been in full flow, with letters from Stuart Jeffery, Hazel Dawe and Ray Duff pushing the less traffic/climate change disaster dogma and putting down anyone who dares to disagree.

They promulgated at least three blatant untruths.

Number One: Stuart Jeffery slams Kent County Council for its 'vision' of a Lower Thames Crossing, saying that "when you build more roads… the roads simply fill up with cars again".

Well, that's what they're for, after all. This seems to happen (though it doesn't always) because on the rare occasion a new road gets built, it is usually a matter of too little too late, so capacity is outstripped from the word go.

A new Thames Crossing is desperately needed, and the Kent Association of British Drivers backs it. A tunnel would be preferred to a bridge to minimise the so-called "devastation".

On the wider issue of road building, there is a limit to the numbers of cars the population can own, let alone drive, at any one time. That may well be more than the present number, but, as with any consumer item, the total numbers will stabilise – they could even go down slightly.

That point can and should be catered for with new and improved roads – which would not be "concreting the countryside with roads" to any great extent.

Let's meet demand rather than impose "demand management" – a euphemism for restriction and rationing of travel generally.

Imagine the fuss if it was proposed to restrict and reduce rail travel in the same way. It's not as though drivers haven't paid for it via high taxation and duties, despite the false Green claim that they are "subsidised".

On the subject of railways, so beloved of Greens, here's a point to ponder. If their movement had been around and as influential in the 19th century, when most railways were built, and were noisy, dirty, steamy affairs, I wonder how many railway lines would have been permitted to be built? Trains have of course since become 'cleaner'. In years to come, so will cars and other road transport.

Number Two: Hazel Dawe paints a picture of reliance on renewable energy to avoid rising sea levels (not that they are rising dangerously – though Kent is 'sinking' in geological terms).

Britain is heading for an 'energy gap' which is, unlike the climate, a real threat to our well-being and manmade – by years of governments ducking the issue.

Wind power is not the answer. Its promoters almost always refer to 'capacity' or potential output, given constant optimum wind.

Because wind is inconsistent, the actual average output is only around a quarter of capacity.

Experience so far seems to indicate a tendency to malfunction.

As for solar panels, I'm sure there is a future for them, but currently they too are just too expensive and give limited returns.

Common as satellite dishes? I don't see local planning authorities being so keen. Nuclear takes time we don't have, so there'll have to be coal too.

Number Three: Ray Duff wrote on more topics than I can mention here, so I'll just go for the old chestnut about the lack of peer-reviewed scientific reports that go against the climate change so-called consensus. Many such reports do exist – we just don't get many chances to view them because many editors are 'leaned on' not to publish them.

A man called Anthony Watts has had a compilation of 450 of them done and published on his website. You don't have to take my word for it, see for yourselves at wattsupwiththat.com.

A quick word about peer review – it has become apparent during the course of the 'climategate' scandal that there has been an informal 'club' of like-minded climate researchers who have quietly been peer-reviewing each other's work, so the peer review process has been damaged.

What a sad state of affairs – we can no longer trust scientists any more than politicians or salesmen. Not just scientists either: the Church, in the person of the Archbishop of Canterbury and charities like Oxfam and Christian Aid have now jumped on the climate-change-bandwagon, thereby tainting their otherwise good work.

• ***Ian Taylor is from the Kent branch of the Association of British Drivers***

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Kent TV a vanity too far

Last week's editorial on the demise of the Conservatives' ill-fated and overpriced internet TV channel, Kent TV, is absolutely spot on.

Kent TV was a Conservative vanity project devised by and for the vainest in local government to promote themselves. All it lacked was the L'Oreal hair dye adverts.

Indeed, it attracted almost no advertising, though this was supposed to raise £600,000 a year to pay for the running of the channel.

The decision to cut out this particular vanity has been taken according to Kent County Council's Conservative leader because "in difficult times, spending has to be prioritised" and the "economic situation was a lot different in 2007". A strange justification. Surely the spending of public money should be prioritised whatever the economic situation.

I am sure those people who saw their home care charges increased to raise £600,000 a year would have considered spending priorities as important in 2007 as they are in 2010.

Mike Eddy
Labour Councillor for Mill Hill, Deal

Policing out in the cold

Reading in KoS that all ratepayers will be paying more in taxes for Kent Police does not come as a surprise. After all, they lost over £11 million in the Icelandic bank fiasco.

I did not realise Kent Police were using our money to play the financial markets, I thought they were there to provide a public service.

Then, of course, we had the up to 45 per cent increase in allowances in 2009 for Kent Police Authority members to pay for as well.

Terry Hudson
Herne Bay

Life-saving information

In September last year Queen Mary's Hospital's accident and emergency unit closed between 8pm and 8am, apparently temporarily, with the urgent care centre opening 24 hours a day.

A couple of weeks ago my wife sustained a bad cut to her hand. It was 9.30pm so I took my chance with the urgent care centre. The nurse had a quick look and announced the cut was too deep for her to deal with, so off we now have to go to Farnborough, or so I thought, thanking God the cut wasn't life-threatening.

Then the nurse said we could walk next door to A&E. When I reminded her it shut at 8pm she replied that was only for ambulances; the man in the street can still use A&E up to 10pm.

Queen Mary's website states that A&E is closed from 8pm, as do the posters in the urgent care centre and A&E. Why is this when the information given is incorrect?

Could it be that Queen Mary's Trust wants no-one in A&E so it can say that as it's not being used in the evening? In the meantime, the moral of the story is if you need Queen Mary's A&E between 8pm and 10pm – don't call an ambulance, call a taxi.

We're still collecting signatures against the partial closure at www.faect.org.uk.

John Hemming-Clark
Party Leader, Independents to Save Queen Mary's Hospital, Chislehurst

Exclusions are sure to rise

I was surprised to read in your news item last week on the phasing out of special education units that "KCC is not removing units for children with special needs from mainstream schools in the county".

The published Special School Review does precisely that by blocking off entry to further children joining the units, so that they will indeed be closed by being left to wither on the vine.

This is happening in the pilot areas of Gravesham Dartford, Swanley, Shepway and Ashford from September. Of course, staff may not wish to stay to the bitter end in the units.

As the quote from KCC makes clear, the "the move to a focus on delivering support to children in their mainstream schools" will lead to all Kent children with special education needs, except those in special Schools, being taught in mainstream classes wherever possible.

The evaluation of success for lead schools in the pilot areas is being carried out this summer; however, it is not until September that 11-year-old children who would normally transfer to special units are sent to mainstream schools, so I am unsure what is to be evaluated.

However, on the basis of this evaluation, all other special needs units are likely to be phased out, except the spectrum autistic unit in Longfield Academy, independent of KCC control.

Twenty per cent of all permanent school exclusions in mainstream schools in Kent are enforced on children with statements of special educational need, rising to 54 per cent in primary schools, in spite of the government directive that states: "Other than in the most exceptional circumstances, schools should avoid permanently excluding pupils with statements."

I believe these shocking figures for Kent will rise under the new policy.

Peter J Read
Independent Education Adviser
www.kentadvice.co.uk

Stop the university cuts

The Government proposes to make cuts of £449 million in the university sector. Kent Green Party is urging people to campaign against these cuts, for the sake of our young people and everyone who wants access to university education.

The university sector is expecting to turn away up to 300,000 would-be students in the autumn, including applicants from all over Kent and Medway.

Government cuts in funding are to blame. Kent-based universities and colleges are all very likely to be turning students away.

The Government found £37 billion in one day to prop up the banking system. At a time of rising unemployment, and bearing in mind persistent skills shortages, it cannot be acceptable to put people on the dole rather than into higher education.

UCAS says applications from home students are already 22 per cent above last year, and overseas applications are up 28.7 per cent.

The University and College Union has already quite rightly condemned the proposed cuts, which threaten the future careers of these applicants. Cuts can be made elsewhere: in subsidies to civil aviation, the nuclear industry, road-building, the proposed national ID card system and defence budget.

Government should not cut the futures of those prepared to take on the challenges, and costs, of university education.

Steve Dawe, Kent Green Party

Letters continued on page 28

YOUR LETTERS

KOS Media welcomes your comments and letters for publication. Please send correspondence to: Letters to the Editor, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. Alternatively fax them to: 01303 817002, or email them to editorial@kosmedia.co.uk. Please include your name and address, although these will be withheld in exceptional circumstances. Please also include a daytime telephone number for verification (this will not be published). We reserve the right to edit letters.

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BIRTHS

BOWE
Paul and Kerry-Anne celebrate the birth of their daughter Mary Victoria Anne, born on 18th January 2010, weighing 8lbs 8oz.

FISK
Stuart and Stacey Fisk celebrate the birth of their son Ethan Stuart Fisk on 31st January 2010.

GREEN
James and Samantha are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful baby son Taylor-James Daniel Christopher Green born on 30th January 2010 at Darent Valley Hospital weighing 6lb 1oz.

JONES
Ruby Heather born on 21st January 2010 weighing 8lb 6oz daughter to Andy and Lucy.

MARSH
Lilly-May born on 1st February 2010, weighing 7lbs 12oz. Daughter to Darryl and Amanda in St Peters. Welcome little sister to Sam, Amy, Charlie, Sam, Sharna, Elisha and Charley.

STAFFORD
Lucy Hewitt and Ben Stafford of Ramsgate, celebrate the birth of Oscar Edmund Stafford on 29th January 2010 weighing 8lbs 7ozs.

DEATHS

BROWN
Brenda Lillian Brown of St Marys Bay passed away on 12th February 2010. Enquiries to Firmagers Funeral Directors of New Romney.

COOPER
Cyril passed away peacefully at The Hollies Residential Home on 6th February 2010. Cremation to take place on 24th February at Medway Crematorium 2pm. Enquiries to Frosts Funeral Service Swanscombe.

DE LA HOYDE
John Patrick de la Hoyde passed away peacefully on 6th February 2010 in Whitstable. A beloved husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather who will be deeply missed. The funeral was held at Barham on Friday 19th February.

DEARLING
Rodney Colin passed away at Maidstone Hospital on 6th February, aged 56. Much loved husband of Jenny and dad of Shaun and Sarah. Will be sadly missed by all.

FAGG
Hilda May passed away peacefully at The Old Farmhouse Residential Home on Tuesday February 9th 2010 aged 99. Very much loved and greatly missed by her children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, family and friends. Funeral to take place at Barham Crematorium on Tuesday February 23rd at 11.20am. Family flowers only, donations to Help For Heroes, Great Ormond Street Hopsital or Salvation Army and sent to Co-Operative Funeral Care, 65 Sturry Road, Canterbury CT1 1BU 01227 463067. The family would like to thank all at The Old Farmhouse for their kindness and care given to Hilda during her time there.

GILES
Frederick Douglas Giles of Canterbury. In loving memory of a beloved husband, loving father, cherished Grandfather and Nandad. Will be deeply missed but now at peace. Lots of Love xxxx.

JARVIS
In loving memory of our beautiful Mum and Nan Jean Alma Jarvis who passed away peacefully on 4th February 2010. Sadly missed but always in our hearts.

TRINDER
Mabel Edith Trinder (nee Jones) of Broadstairs passed away peacefully on 5th February 2010, aged 87 years. Enquiries to Nobles of St Peters Funeral Directors. To live in the hearts of those left behind is to live forever.

WASHINGTON
Washington, Marlene Ann MBE died peacefully aged 68 on 14th February 2010, in the presence of her sons Julian and Jeremy, having been surrounded by the love and prayers of family and friends in her last days. Funeral at St Catherines Church, Preston-next-Faversham ME13 8LN, 1.45pm Friday 26th February. By request, flowers please.

WEBSTER
Marjorie Kathleen Webster passed peacefully away in her sleep on the evening of Monday 8th February 2010 aged 87. Service at Medway Crematorium on Tuesday 23rd February 12:00 Noon. Family flowers only please. Donations welcome to the British Heart Foundation, c/o John Barker at Morris and Partners, 39 Windmill Street, Gravesend DA12 1BA, Tel No 01474 334448.

Letters continued from page 27

Small business is key

Liberal Democrats in Sevenoaks and Swanley have set out plans to revitalise Britain's high streets, protect the future of the Post Office, and help small businesses establish and grow in a fairer marketplace.

The announcement comes as research shows one in eight shops is now empty after the recession. The report, published by the Local Data Company (LDC), says vacancies shot up by 24 per cent in the second half of 2009.

Even before the credit crunch, small independent shops had more or less disappeared from Swanley Town Centre. Labour's skewed planning system as well as Conservative local government dominance has seen supermarket giants squeeze the life out of our towns and now almost every high street in Britain is an identical collection of chain stores.

We need thriving town centres in Sevenoaks and Swanley, with real character to allow local businesses to survive and grow. The financial crisis has exposed Labour and the Conservatives' folly of being entirely dependant on the City of London. The Liberal Democrats understand that small businesses are key to building a healthy and balanced economy.

Lib Dems will encourage the development of a PostBank and free the Post Office from Royal Mail to enable it to develop. We will introduce a local competition test for all retail planning applications to establish a fairer balance between independent stores and supermarkets. We will also establish a system of Local Enterprise Funds and regional stock exchanges to ensure small businesses get access to cost effective equity.

Lib Dem Parliamentary Candidate for Sevenoaks and Swanley
Tunbridge Wells

Keep up with the facts

It is Phil Grainger (Letters, last week) who seems to talk pie in the sky over man-made global warming (M-MGW) as he presents little or no peer-reviewed evidence against it. The facts speak for themselves:

- The World Meteorological Organisation reported a 0.4 C rise in global temperatures in the last 10 years along with five of those being the warmest on record.
- China has released data from 29 Tibetan weather stations showing a 1.5C rise in both winter and summer temperatures, again the highest since records began.
- The 'scandal' was about the Himalayan glaciers, where the current problem is the inaccessibility of the region, not the fact of overall warming. On this point 13 national science institutes around the world, along with Nasa satellite data and recent tree-ring and ice-core samples, etc, all further concur that it is happening and our fault.
- The sun has ended its long low point and has been re-activating for some months now, but a report in US journal Science of March, 2009, again showed that sun and sunspot activity are not the cause of current warming.
- Overall warming may have slowed recently, but only that, and may be due to lower water-vapour levels in the stratosphere. However, the scientist responsible for this clearly stated that M-MGW is happening irrespective of these results.
- Climate and weather are not the same thing. The former happens over thousands or millions of years, the latter is what happens within it over a few decades. We have gone from a fairly stable, for three million years, climate where CO2 was around 275 parts per million (ppm), to one of 389ppm and rising in just 200 years by our own efforts, thus causing the recent wilder weather and altering the climate overall.
- On green beans, if these were on a Fairtrade only basis it may help improve farming in Kenya, etc; as with coffee, tea and so forth, alongside with such as crop-rotation methods.
- As for the Green Investment Bank, it would be funded by government, renewable energy companies, Fairtrade organisations, social enterprises, the Co-op and other 'green' banks like Triodos and Barchester. These along with individuals. It could work alongside the proposed international Tobin Tax and, I suggest, perhaps a similar internal UK one to help fund the Green New Deal overall.

Lastly, I leave Mr Grainger to extract himself from the right-wing media and suggest he instead gets into fact-based magazines such as New Scientist or BBC Focus and books and articles by Fred Pearce, Mark Lynas, Ian Katz, et al, for a better view of things. In other words: do keep up.

Ray Duff
Folkestone

Follow Grand example

Having not been to The Grand, on the Leas in Folkestone, in over six months I was pleasantly surprised by my recent visit last week.

Gone are the portion bottles of wine, grey interior to Keppels bar and surly manager and staff. In their place is a seaside wine bar in glowing burgundy, complete with smart staff and a superb menu, much better than I have seen in a long time, also the new nightly glow of the palm court lights up the Leas.

What impresses me the most is that I saw on the Shepway chairwoman, Susan Carey's Blog that the hotel is supporting the child Victim Support group and upon further investigation, it was pointed out that this was due to the owner, Michael Stainer having solicited the services of a new manager.

I understand the gentleman to be new to the area having worked outside London. Well done, Mr Stainer is what I say. If all business proprietors felt as committed to Folkestone as you and the young Mr Richardson we would have a very progressive township.

I urge everyone to look to their area in these hard times in which we live. The Grand has now set an example for us to follow and I hope this is just the first of many.

P Campbell
By Email

Defending your home

Imagine waking up at 3am when you hear a noise at the front door of the house.

In alarm you switch on the lamp, go out into the hall and confront a big, nasty man wielding an iron bar. The front door has been smashed in and you are terrified.

You have picked up the big stick that you keep at the bedside and in your sleepy, semi-conscious state you wonder whether the man has called for tea. Then you are confronted with a dilemma which has been foisted on all of us by our out-of-touch, Alice-in-Wonderland politicians. Do you wait for the intruder to strike first and steal the family jewels or do you gently kick him in the shins?

My dear old father would not have hesitated to defend his home. He would have struck first, heavily, and then shoved the unconscious man out the door.

Later, he would have been commended for bravery by his family, neighbours and especially the police for doing their job for them.

John Pool
UKIP member, Broadstairs

Too many bad drivers

What an idiot. At 1pm on Friday, January 29, I was driving along the A233 from Bromley towards Biggin Hill and had just rounded the first of the notorious 'chicken farm bends' at Keston to confront a parked car on my side of the road with its hazard lights flashing and the driver sorting through papers on the passenger seat while using a mobile phone.

The 320 bus following behind had to cross double white lines in the centre of the road, taking up the full width of the opposite carriageway. A potentially lethal manoeuvre on a blind bend at this accident black spot.

My previous car was written off when it was hit by a car driven by a woman using a mobile phone causing me to collide with two parked cars.

Quite frankly, speed cameras are a waste of time as they do not catch dangerous or stupid drivers.

We need more police in cars to catch these idiots and much harsher sentencing for those using a mobile phone while in control of a vehicle or stopping to use a mobile phone in a dangerous location. I've even witnessed a learner rider sending a text message while riding his scooter one-handed.

A mandatory driving ban and crushing the vehicle should be the minimum sentence for either offence for all of those selfish drivers who continue to put lives at risk.

Alan Baker,
Biggin Hill

Immaturity over burkas

It is fatuous of precocious Alex Ellis-Roswell to compare the UK Independence Party to the far-right BNP (Teen says Ukip burka ban is 'like the BNP', KOS, January 30).

At just 16, Mr Ellis-Roswell is still only a boy and his intemperate castigation of UKIP over the 'burka ban' policy underlines his immaturity. The burka/niqab is not a religious garment. It is a socially and culturally divisive public advertisement for the subjugation of women. The veils overt an 'us and them' statement of separation and inequality stymies multi-racial understanding and acceptance.

Husbands who coerce their wives into wearing masks that hide their faces in public are bullies who thrive on exerting power and authority over women.

Female emancipation is anathema to these men. In their blinkered opinion a woman is the exclusive property of the man.

Some Muslim women claim to wear the burka through personal choice, but how much of their decision is the result of fervent indoctrination from their controlling masters? Facial expressions and eye contact are key to the art of human communication. To suppress this natural interaction is an affront to humanity and has no place in British society.

Clive Wilkins-Opple,
Canterbury

Keep the hunting ban

This week marks five years since the cruelty of hunting with dogs was made illegal in this country. Five years on and more than one hundred convictions show the Hunting Act is rock solid and working well.

Opponents of the act will argue this is not the case, but new figures show consistent support from the public in favour of keeping the ban. Polling conducted monthly over the last eight months by YouGov concluded that around two thirds of people approve of the ban. Far more people disagree with lifting the ban than those in favour of repeal.

This is legislation which is clearly workable and effective and five years on it is time to send a clear message to politicians who wish to repeal the act that they must not go against the will of the majority of the public.

Those who support the hunting and killing of wild animals for sport need to accept that their barbaric pastime is over and responsible politicians should act now to keep cruelty history.

John Cooper
Chairman, League Against Cruel Sports

Speaking up for ME

With the General Election fast approaching, now is the time to empower those who have long been neglected by successive governments to shape the future agenda.

Because 250,000 people in the UK are affected by ME, nearly every one of your readers will know someone with the illness.

Action for ME and the Association of Young People with ME have produced a joint manifesto. We urge everyone with ME, together with their relatives and friends, to use this document to lobby their MP and all other parliamentary candidates.

It spells out the issues and demands answers on how each candidate would tackle them. By joining forces, a significant number of voters will be able to transform the collective voice of people with ME, a deafening cry that can no longer be ignored.

The manifesto for ME and a template letter to MPs can be found at www.afme.org.uk.

Sir Peter Spencer, chief executive,
Action for ME
Mary-Jane Willows, chief executive,
Association of Young People with ME


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Advice on teaching career

THE Training and Development Agency for Schools is hosting an exhibition to seek out new teaching talent.

The Train to Teach event is being held at London's Science Museum from Friday, March 5-Saturday, March 6, and will showcase the benefits of a career in education.

Graham Holley, chief executive of the Training and Development Agency, said: "We're searching for talented people to become teachers. Train to Teach is the ideal opportunity for those interested in teaching to find out more."

Entrance is free, but registration is advisable. To register visit www.teach.gov.uk/traintoteach.

From school to workplace

A MASTERCLASS is being held to help secondary pupils make the move into the workplace.

Around 120 students from across the county have been invited to the Kent County Council event at Ashford International Hotel on Wednesday, March 10.

They will be shown how to improve their employability skills through confidence workshops.

Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory actor Rusty Goffe talk about his career, and pupils can talk to employers in a series of networking challenges.

Help for dyslexic students

AN OPEN day is being held to promote vocational subjects within secondary education.

The event at North West Kent College in Gravesend will focus on dyslexic students and any fears they may have about their future.

Dyslexia co-ordinator June Devine said: "We have a proven track record of supporting dyslexic learners and helping them to achieve their qualifications."

The open day is on Monday, March 8, from 3.30-8.30pm.

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www.theplumbingacademy.co.uk

Mosaic hoping to take top honours at global contest

By **MARIJKE COX**
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

A GROUP of talented students from the University of Kent are getting ready to compete in one of the world's most prestigious economics competitions.

They will show off their skills at the BiTS University in Iserlohn, Germany, during the three-day Rubicon Contest 2010.

The annual competition attracts participants from across the globe, specifically focusing on those studying economics or business.

Alexandra Marsanu, Polina Blochina, Theo Thieffry and Thomas Christian make up the Kent team, called Mosaic, and will represent the UK in the battle against 24 other teams.

This year's theme is sustainability, with the team confident they can fulfil the tasks ahead, which involve computer simulations, problem-solving strategies and presentations of case studies.

They said: "We possess the experience and backgrounds that will benefit our team and will contribute to this competition in a constructive way to challenge and create sustainable solutions.



CHALLENGE: Rubicon contestants are ready for the prestige competition

"The Rubicon Contest 2010 will be a great challenge that can only be met when each of us contributes, like a mosaic, where different stones have to form one big picture."

Bastian Bergmann, project co-ordinator at Rubicon, said 2010 was proving to be the best year yet for applicants, with more than 100 already registered.

"We have not received this many applications from so many different countries ever before," he said.

"The standard of the applications underlines the quality and popularity the Rubicon Contest has gained.

"For this reason we can claim to be the most international contest in the world."

Organisers were forced to increase the numbers of participating teams this year, after countries including Jordan, Pakistan, Egypt and India applied for the first time.

Malte Bruins, an organiser at the German university, said: "All teams are expecting an amazing Rubicon Contest and we are willing to make that happen, aiming high this year.

"The schedule is tight and the to-do list is unlimited, but we are not afraid to meet the challenge."

Winning teams will have awards and prizes presented to them in front of an academic, business and young professional jury.

For more about the contest see www.rubicon-contest.com.

Trades 'play important role'

ONE in five parents is pushing their children to train as electricians or plumbers, according to new research.

And despite most parents encouraging their offspring to become doctors or lawyers, many are saying that skilled tradesmen can provide an equally important service.

The survey, carried out by the Electrical Contractors Association (ECA) in Maidstone, revealed that most families would advise their children to become an electrician rather than a vet, teacher or pilot.

Howard Salmon, ECA South East regional manager, said: "What people don't realise is just how intricate and cutting edge some of the technology employed in landmark buildings, such as the Gherkin in central London, Wembley Stadium and other key developments, is," he said.

"Most buildings only function as well as they do because of the specialist skills of the electrician installing the intricate systems.

"There must be a great sense of pride for a skilled tradesperson in knowing what a vital role they play in the success of such projects."

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Visit Kent

Visit Kent is the official tourism delivery body for Kent. We are a public/private sector partnership supporting Kent's £2.5 bn visitor economy.

We are expanding our team thanks to support from our stakeholders and successful applications for grant aid from the EU 2 Seas Interreg IV A Programme. We are seeking energetic and experienced individuals who first and foremost love Kent and are passionate about encouraging visitors to Kent.

Finance Coordinator
(French speaker preferred), Canterbury based but able to travel to Maidstone approximately twice a week and to France, The Netherlands and Belgium periodically for meetings. The focus of the role will be the preparation of monthly management accounts, budgeting and forecasting, cash flow, organising and supporting external audit of EU 2 Seas Interreg IVa projects, monitoring of project budgets and budget holders. Must have excellent systems skills (Excel & Sage) and be capable of robust and detailed analysis as well as the ability to liaise at senior levels.

Experience in a financial environment and with European projects preferred.

Relevant tertiary qualifications required although **candidates actively studying will be considered.**

Salary £25,000 - £30,000

Visit **www.visitkent.co.uk** for more details of the positions and application details.

For further information, please contact Sharon Dawson on 01227 862789 or sharon.dawson@visitkent.co.uk

Closing date for applications: 24th February 2010.
This advertisement first appeared on 10th February 2010.

Visit Kent Limited is a public/private sector partnership supported by Kent County Council, Medway Council, the District and Borough Councils, Tourism South East and the leading private sector tourism businesses in Kent.

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Community Support Workers – MOST (Paddock Wood)

We are looking for committed, enthusiastic support workers for our rapidly growing domiciliary service. Full current driving licence and access to a vehicle for work purposes is essential. A mileage allowance is payable.
Hourly rate from £7.20 - £7.70 dependent on experience and qualifications (includes 50p per hour enhancement).

For detailed information concerning this position please contact Katherine Osborne on 01892 839990

Support Workers (Edenbridge)

Falconers Court at Edenbridge has full and part-time vacancies for Support Workers.

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For detailed information please contact Steve Shepherd on 07947 794307

HR Assistant (Maternity Cover) – (Pembury)

Full or part-time maternity cover required. It will be necessary to have a flexible approach to work and a willingness to assist in all areas within the HR Department. Good interpersonal skills and an excellent attention to detail and accuracy is required. Previous HR experience is preferable but not essential but previous administrative experience is essential. For the HR position all applications must include a covering letter explaining reasons for application and salary expectation.

Application Forms for all positions above can be obtained from the HR Dept on 01892 822168
or reception@pepenbury.info or download from www.pepenbury.info

All positions are subject to enhanced clearance from the CRB, POVA and POCA Registers.
No agency referrals.

SAULFON PHARMACEUTICALS LIMITED

Sauflon Pharmaceuticals Limited is an expanding independent manufacturing company producing contact lenses and solutions for markets around the world. We currently have the following vacancies:-

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You will have served a recognised electrical apprenticeship and possess the 17th edition certification. Experience working in a manufacturing environment as a qualified maintenance electrician is required and mechanical experience will be an advantage. A full driving license is essential.

MAINTENANCE ENGINEER

This role encompasses preventative and routine maintenance of production equipment, buildings and the installation of new equipment in a manufacturing environment. The successful candidate should possess at least 5 years of previous engineering experience in this environment. Turning/welding skills would be an advantage. A full driving license is essential.
Hours of work for the above 2 positions will be Flexible 6:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. or 2:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. Monday to Friday.

PRODUCTION SCHEDULER

The role will involve creating and maintaining weekly production schedules for contact lenses aftercare solutions based on the ERP suggestions, making the most effective use of resources, whilst meeting agreed customer service and stock levels. You will liase daily with the production, sales departments and other members of the planning team.

The ideal candidate will have 3 years experience in a similar role, have good excel skills and experience of working with ERP systems. You must be a good team player, have good communication skills and be able to work on your own initiative. The position is based at the production site in Ashford in Kent.
Hours of work will be 8:30 am – 5:00 pm Monday – Friday.

We offer a competitive salary, holiday entitlement and productivity bonus scheme.

For an application form, please telephone 01233 646599 or alternatively send a detailed CV, quoting your current salary to:-

HR Department – Recruitment, Sauflon Pharmaceuticals Limited, Unit 8, Mace Industrial Estate, Ashford, Kent - TN24 8EP alternatively email: SimonilK@sauflon.co.uk



The Boulters Ltd

As a growing childcare organisation we are looking to recruit an experienced

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You will need to be able to demonstrate your experience and passion in working with young people with emotional and behavioural difficulties.

We are looking for an enthusiastic and motivated person with excellent organisational, interpersonal and multitasking skills who will lead and manage their team of support workers.

The ideal candidate will hold a NVQ 3, NVQ 4 or Registered Manager Award, Children and Young People (or equivalent) or be working towards this qualification and also hold a full driving licence.

This is a full time position and the successful applicant will be expected to work alongside a rota and cover on call responsibilities as required.

The post is subject to an enhanced CRB Disclosure.

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Appointments are subject to the Swale Carers Centre receiving an enhanced disclosure from the ISA/CRB which is considered acceptable. Swale Carers Centre is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974.
For further information and an application pack please contact:
Sandie Hornby—Chief Operations Officer: Swale Carers Centre,
Suite 9, Bank House, Broadway, Sheerness, Kent ME12 1TW
or telephone 01795 583440 or visit www.swalecarers.org.uk
Closing Date for Receipt of Applications: 24th February 2010
Interview Date: 1st March 2010. To be held in Sheerness
Swale Carers Centre is a member the Princess Royal Trust for Carers Network and offers good working conditions, a comprehensive training programme, essential car users & mileage allowance and pension contribution.



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Apply with your CV or letter to:

Gary Wright
Group Editor Midweeks
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email: gary.wright@kosmedia.co.uk

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Closing date: 26 February 2010. Interview date: 10 March 2010.

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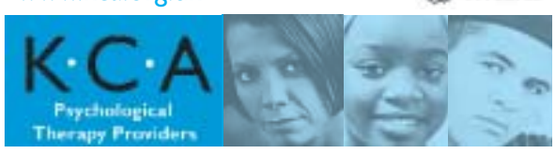
Closing date: 26th February 2010.
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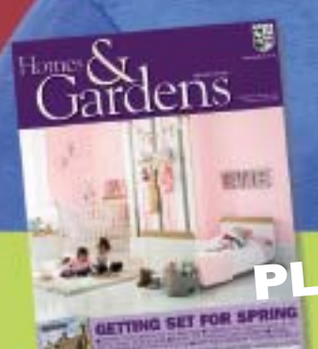
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IN MY VIEW



By Steve Knight

Enjoy a bite of the horror action

WOLFMAN (15)

SOMETIMES you just want to watch a film without having to think too much about what is going on and why.

For people with relatively small attention spans like me, it can be easy to misunderstand why he did that, who those people were or what that woman was doing to that alien.

Thankfully with a film like The Wolfman – a remake of the 1941 flick which helped define the genre – you don't have to be a philosopher to appreciate the action unfurling before you.

It stars Benicio del Toro as Shakespearean actor Lawrence Talbot, who returns to his homeland of Blackmoor, England, after his brother Ben is mauled in the woods by a demonic half-man, half-beast.

Keen to avenge his sibling's death, Lawrence heads off into the woods to track down the werewolf responsible, only to be bitten on the neck before the pitchfork brigade come to his rescue.

However, the villagers are only too aware of Horror Film Rule No 198 (ie, somebody bitten by a werewolf will also become a werewolf) and so attempt to cart him off to the madhouse, with Insp Francis Aberline (Hugo Weaving) the main antagonist.

Fortunately for Lawrence his father, Sir John Talbot (Anthony Hopkins) is on hand to offer his son a safe haven, ably assisted by his "Sikh manservant" Singh (Art Malik) and Ben's grieving fiancée Gwen Conliffe (Emily Blunt).

But as Lawrence battles to cope with his new-found alter ego (which of course only emerges when it's a full moon), he discovers his family has for years been hiding a very dark secret.

Overall The Wolfman is a fun enough movie, with plenty of moments to make you jump, wince in disgust and even laugh.

One particularly enjoyable moment in the film occurs when a German professor wheels Lawrence out in front of a group of students to prove that he is only a werewolf in his own mind.

I don't need to tell you what happens when the full moon appears, but rest assured there's plenty of panic as well as a healthy amount of blood and guts flying about.

There are also strong performances from Hopkins and Weaving in particular, who as Hannibal Lector and Agent Smith (of The Matrix) respectively, have made evil an art form.

But let's face it – if you've seen one werewolf flick, you've pretty much seen them all. And despite the advancements in special effects, in terms of quality this still falls some way short of An American Werewolf in London, which was made almost 30 years ago.

There are better options out there at the moment, but for 100-odd minutes of tried-and-trusted B-movie type horror, The Wolfman is at least worth a look.

DVD

UP (U)

FOLLOWING the death of his wife Ellie (voiced by Elie Docter), retired balloon salesman Carl Fredricksen (Ed Asner) refuses to be parted from the house he built with his beloved.

When developers threaten to bulldoze the property, Carl ties thousands of brightly coloured helium balloons to the roof and takes flight, bound for Paradise Falls in South America, where he and Ellie had always planned to visit.

Unexpectedly, a Junior Wilderness Explorer called Russell (Jordan Nagai) is stranded on the porch and the plucky tyke joins Carl on his big adventure which includes a talking dog called Dug (Bob Peterson), a 13-foot-tall, flightless bird called Kevin and long-lost explorer Charles Muntz (Christopher Plummer).

Up is another modern classic from the computer animation wizards at Pixar and arguably the studio's most sophisticated and adult film to date, although there is plenty to engage children, including Dug and Kevin.

The opening 10 minutes are among the finest Pixar have ever created, and are guaranteed to have viewers choking back tears.

The script takes its time building up the relationship between Carl and Russell, which mellows from mutual tolerance into the most extraordinary yet believable friendship.

Visuals are astounding too in their vibrancy and minuscule detail, and you soon forget you are watching something that has been created meticulously on computers.

As with other Pixar releases, there's a hilarious short to whet the appetite. Here we are treated to Partly Cloudy, featuring a lonely, grey cloud called Gus who has problems sculpting baby animals for the storks to deliver. Perfection.

PANDORUM (15)

THE year is 2174 and on board the spaceship Elysium, astronaut Corporal Bower (Ben Foster) wakes from hypersleep with no memory of his mission, closely followed by his superior, Lieutenant Payton (Dennis Quaid).

A third member of the team is missing from his hypersleep chamber and the airlock is jammed shut.

As Bower makes his way through the ship, guided by Payton, he realises that something is dreadfully wrong: A race of carnivorous, alien creatures is aboard the vessel, hunting human prey.

The corporal's immediate concern is his wife and other loved ones in the lower quarters, but Payton refocuses Bower's mind: "We save the ship, we save them."

So Bower makes his way towards the reactor aided by fellow survivors Manh (Cung Le) and Nadia (Antje Traue), who have honed their survival skills against the relentless foe.

Pandorum is a headache-inducing game of cat and mouse in a labyrinth of dimly lit tunnels that pales next to Alien and its sequels.

Director Christian Alvart cuts back and forth between Foster's gung-ho exploits and Quaid's descent into madness in the claustrophobic control centre, neither strand holding much interest.

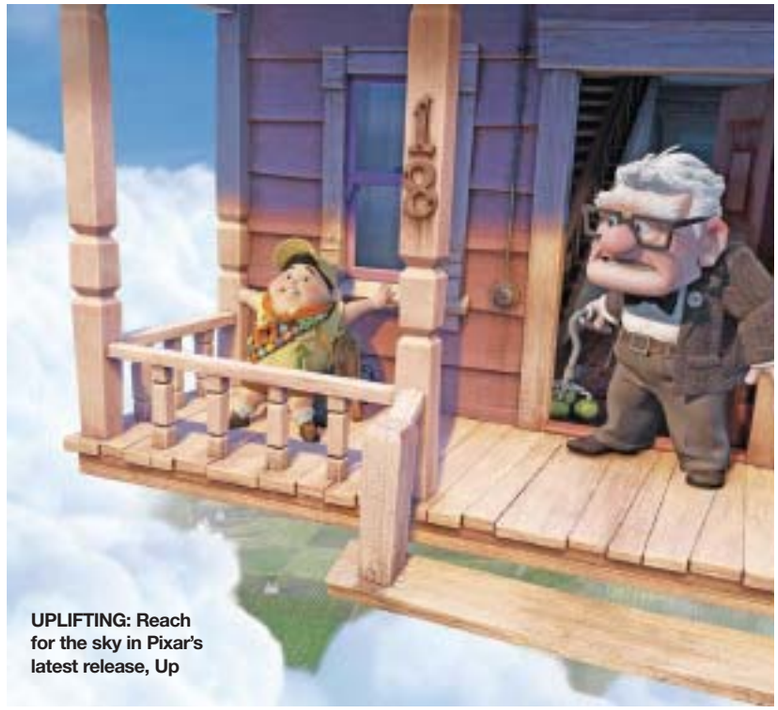
Travis Milloy's screenplay clumsily attempts to blur reality and fantasy, but the truth about the amnesia-plagued protagonists is blindingly obvious from the start.

Alvart's film might be tolerable if the action sequences were well orchestrated, however, editor Philip Stahl seems to have a nervous twitch and cuts everything so furiously that even the simplest chase is reduced to an incomprehensible blur.

ADAM (12)

WRITER-director Max Mayer's drama is a sobering portrait of romantic travails in New York City, proving beyond doubt that polar opposites attract.

At the film's heart is a strong performance from British actor Hugh Dancy as an orphan living with Asperger syndrome.



UPLIFTING: Reach for the sky in Pixar's latest release, Up

Adam (Dancy) lives alone in the apartment he used to share with his late father, working as an electronics engineer by day and gazing dreamily at the stars by night.

With family friend Harlan (Frankie Faison) watching over him, Adam learns to do laundry by himself and to shop for the packets of macaroni and cheese which constitute his daily diet.

Kindergarten teacher Beth (Rose Byrne) is attracted to Adam, to the consternation of her parents (Peter Gallagher, Amy Irving) who want their little girl to marry someone with prospects.

A high-functioning autistic simply won't do, and as Beth finds herself falling for her neighbour, even she has to concede: "He's never told me that he loves me. I don't know what it would mean to him if he did."

Blessed with Dancy's strong lead turn as an innocent who struggles to process even simple emotional responses, Adam is an engaging and offbeat love story that loses its way once the central characters enter into their unlikely romance.

Thankfully, Mayer doesn't sell his film's soul for a sugar-coated happy ending, retaining an air of realism as Adam and Beth struggle to find common ground.

"He lives in another world. You don't have to make that kind of compromise," pleads Beth's father. Somehow, love finds a way.

CODE NAME: THE CLEANER (PG)

JAKE (Cedric The Entertainer) wakes in a strange hotel room, woozy and disoriented, to find a dead government agent beside him and a suitcase containing 250,000 dollars.

Fleeing the scene, Jake runs into beautiful blonde Diane (Nicollette Sheridan) in the hotel lobby.

"I can't believe you don't remember your own wife!" she gasps, driving him home.

At a local diner, pretty waitress Gina (Lucy Liu), reveals the truth: he is part of the maintenance staff at a company which makes videogames.

"I don't fight crime, I fight grime?" ponders Jake, struggling to make sense of fractured memories of a top-secret operation involving the videogame company's CEO, Eric Hauck (Mark Dacascos), his henchman Shaw (Keith Rennie) and a stolen microchip.

Code Name: The Cleaner was released in UK cinemas in December, 2007, and has taken an eternity to debut on DVD, and with good reason.

Screenwriters Robert Adetuyi and George Gallo stack the film with one ridiculous twist and turn after the next, asking us to believe the leading man could pass muster as an elite undercover agent.

It's unlikely Jason Bourne will be quaking in his boots.

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Enjoy a Big Day Out

FROM stately homes to sporting fun, thousands of free tickets are on offer for the Kent Big Day Out.

On Saturday, March 27, more than 100 visitor attractions across the county will be offering free entry to residents of the county, giving them the chance to discover the wealth of entertainment and heritage on their doorstep. With more than 18,000 tickets available, people of all ages and tastes can enjoy a fabulous day out for free.

The tickets will be available at visitor information centres and www.kentbigdayout.co.uk from Friday and more will be added to the website during the run-up to the event.

Now in its fourth year, Kent Big Day Out is offering an even wider choice of experiences, from discovering the dark secrets of Chislehurst Caves to marvelling at the skills of the Saxon Stars Cheerleading Squad.

Uncover the quirky charm of Margate's Shell Grotto, the beautifully restored grounds at the Secret Gardens of Sandwich, or stroll through the gardens at Chartwell, Sissinghurst Castle Garden and Groombridge Place as they burst into spring life.

Find out more about the great houses of Kent with a visit to Hever Castle, Ightham Mote, Knole or Penshurst Place; have a wild time at Wildwood Trust or Wingham Wildlife Park; let off steam with Go Ape at Bedgebury National Pinetum and Forest or Leeds Castle, or take the children to family attractions like Diggerland, Dickens World and The Canterbury Tales.

From the serenity of Romney Marsh to the excitement of a football match at Princes Park Stadium in Dartford, there is sure to be something for everyone this year.

Children's tale is a beautiful lesson too

VISIT a glittering underwater world as a classic children's story is brought to life in The Rainbow Fish.

Marcus Pfister's tale about friendship has been transformed into a captivating stage show by Blunderbus Theatre Company. This beautifully crafted production will sweep audiences away with its lovely design and enchanting moral story.



As the most beautiful fish in the ocean, the Rainbow Fish is proud of her stunning shiny scales and has become vain. When a small friend asks for one of her scales, she refuses but soon finds that her vanity has alienated all her friends. So the Rainbow Fish sets out to seek advice and find out how she can win back her pals and be happy again.

The award-winning book, with its shimmering illustrations, has become a modern classic and was turned into a television series in the US. Since it was first published in 1992, there has been much speculation about the book's central moral and message, but above all it has enchanted young readers everywhere.

The magical family show can be seen at Quarterhouse in Folkestone at 2.30pm today and tickets cost £5/£4 or £15 for families. To book call 01303 858500 or visit the website at www.quarterhouse.co.uk.

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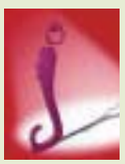
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The Hobbit
Tue 23 – Sun 28 Feb
Join Gandalf the Sorcerer as he leads Bilbo Baggins and his Dwarf companions off on a frightening but magical journey.
Tickets: £11.00 - £26.50
Concessions available

Jongleurs
Fri 5 Mar
The world famous comedy club heads to Dartford offering the perfect way to get your weekend off to a hilarious start.
Tickets: £12.00



Stop Messing About
Mon 8 - Sat 13 March
Set during a BBC Radio live recording, packed with outrageously funny sketches transporting you back to a time when comedy meant being funny.
Tickets: £15.00 - £22.00



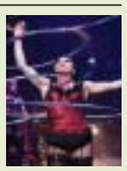


The Dubliners
Sun 14 March
After the public reaction to their sell-out show at home in Ireland, The Dubliners bring their concert to Dartford.
Tickets: £19.50, £21.50



Tony Stockwell
Mon 15 March
It's not creepy, or kooky, mysterious or spooky. It's Tony Stockwell demonstrating his belief that those who have passed on can communicate with us.
Tickets: £18.50, £20.50

Circus of Horrors
Tue 16 March
The Undead Ringmaster Doktor Haze will guide you through an uncontrollable cast of the world's greatest and grotesque Circus acts.
Tickets: £10.00 - £24.50
Concessions available



The Sopranos
Wed 17 March
An evening full of glitz, glamour and oodles of personality, the stunning Sopranos enthrall the audience with timeless Broadway & Opera classics.
Tickets: £19.50
Concessions available





The Hollies
Thu 18 March
A night of pure Hollies with Tony Hicks, Peter Howarth, Ian Parker, Steve Laurie, Ray Stiles and Bobby Elliott.
Tickets: £22.50, £24.50

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Live Music at Porters Restaurant
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Chatham Performing Arts & Media Club present...
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Fri 12th Feb - tickets £15
Mikki Jay "It is This" Michael Jackson Tribute
Sat 13th Feb - tickets from £8
Valentine's Menu - Sun 14th Feb (full a la carte menu available)

Future Events:
Saturday Night Live Music @ Porters Restaurant Saturday 6th March, tickets £15 inc. three course meal
Mother's Day Special:
Gimme Abba
Sat 13th March - tickets from £9
Free Entry
to Dickens World for all Mums (when accompanied by a paying child) - Sun 14th March
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TV

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22

RAYMOND BLANC: KITCHEN SECRETS: He may be a world-renowned, Michelin-starred chef, but Raymond Blanc clearly also knows that good food doesn't have to be complicated.

Why else would the last series of his reality show The Restaurant have been won by a chef whose signature dish was a Scotch egg?

Now he's on a mission to show home cooks how they can also turn seemingly simple dishes into something sublime, using the best ingredients and a little culinary knowhow.

This week, the chef concentrates on seafood, demonstrating why we're wrong to take the humble mackerel for granted when little more than a splash of soy sauce and lime can transform it into a delicious lunch. ***(BBC Two, 8.30pm)***

STORYVILLE: YOUR FATHER'S MURDERER – A LETTER TO ZACHARY: Many people try to find ways to commemorate a lost loved one, and director Kurt Kuenne is no exception.

Following the 2001 murder of his friend Andrew Bagby, he set out to create a tribute, drawing on old footage and interviews with friends and relatives of the deceased.

As the title suggests, this remarkable film is in the form of an open letter to Andrew's son Zachary to help him get to know his father.

However, as well as celebrating Andrew's life, the documentary also explores the aftermath of his death. In particular, it follows Andrew's parents David and Kathleen Bagby as they try to win custody of Zachary, who was living with his mother Shirley Turner in Canada while she faced extradition to America to stand trial for Andrew's murder.

It adds an intriguing twist to an already moving film, ensuring you don't need to have known Andrew to be gripped by this remarkable story. ***(BBC Four, 10pm)***

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

HOW EARTH MADE US: Over the course of this fascinating series, Professor Iain Stewart has looked at how natural geological forces have shaped human history, but in the final episode he examines how we have made our mark on the world around us.

Whereas people used to be at the mercy of the elements, the expert asserts that the tables have now turned, and it's mankind doing most of the damage.

To illustrate his point, he heads to Indonesia, visiting a village that was swallowed by a catastrophic mud volcano, a disaster caused by human intervention. However, as Iain points out, not all of our meddling has been negative.

He heads for the Rocky Mountains in Canada to explore the theory that farming helped avert a new ice age, and also looks at how human ingenuity means that five times more water is held in reservoirs than flows in the world's rivers. ***(BBC Two, 8pm)***

SURVIVORS: Lo, we've come to the end of another series of the post-apocalyptic drama and if anything it's been an even bleaker run this time around.

The group are in mourning after the recent death of one of their number and meet up in the ruined lab, realising that with a new strain of the virus on the loose, the effort to find a vaccine is more important than ever.

However, Abby has just one thought on her mind – her son, Peter, who she glimpsed briefly beyond the confines of the lab.

Al, believing he has nothing left to lose, volunteers to test the vaccine, but Whitaker, surviving off the serum culled from Abby's blood, continues to cause trouble. ***(BBC One, 9pm)***

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

INSTANT RESTAURANT: To an amateur chef, working in your own restaurant can sound like a dream job, the reality is very different.

You only have to watch Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares to discover not everyone is cut out to run their own eatery – and even the best-run business can struggle. So before you rush to invest your life savings in a new restaurant, maybe you should take part in this series.

Nadia Sawalha invites two cooks to see if they have what it takes to turn their own homes into a profitable restaurant. If it turns out they can't stand the heat in their own kitchens, they can at least take comfort in the fact it's for one night only.

Here, Nadia heads to the West Country, where Paul Tobin and Andrew Strigner are preparing to take up the challenge. They will be aiming at very different clienteles – while Paul is providing a vegetarian menu, Andrew's dishes will be offal-based. ***(BBC Two, 5.30pm)***

THE DAY THE IMMIGRANTS LEFT: Should immigrants be welcome in our country, or are they an unwanted nuisance?

That's a question that has probably received a number of very different answers during the past few years. Immigration is certainly something that has polarised the nation.

Many Britons believe workers from former eastern bloc countries have flooded into the country, taking positions that the country's unemployed could fill. But is that really the case? Or is it that these newcomers actually fulfil a staff shortage, taking jobs our own countrymen refuse to do?

Perhaps this documentary will help us find out. Evan Davis is in Cambridgeshire challenging people to tackle jobs which, in recent years, have primarily been done by foreign workers. ***(BBC One, 9pm)***

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25

BRITISH COLUMBIA: CANADA'S OLYMPIC WILDERNESS: With all eyes turned to the Winter Olympics in Vancouver, Canada, viewers are receiving an opportunity to marvel at the country's natural beauty.

Although even a polar bear would have to wrap up warm before venturing outside in Canada, the jaw-dropping scenery is worth braving freezing temperatures that can plummet to less than -20 degrees Celsius.

To coincide with the Winter Olympics, Ed Leigh and Graham Bell journey across the frozen province of British Columbia in Canada as they make their way to the resort of Whistler, the venue for several events at this year's Winter Olympics. ***(BBC Two, 8pm)***

SCAMS, CLAIMS AND COMPENSATION GAMES: You can't turn on the television nowadays without seeing an advert urging you to sue if you've had a "slip, trip or fall".

Prior to this phenomenon, us Brits used to scoff when hearing stories about our colonial cousins across the pond who would sue their own grandmother if she was stingy with the cranberry sauce at Thanksgiving.

But, these days it seems like we're also becoming a nation besotted with 'suing culture' as more and more of us try to make a quick buck. Whatever happened to loving thy neighbour?

With that in mind, this Cutting Edge film explores Britain's personal injury industry to see if the nation is going to the dogs, or if 'no win, no fee' lawyers are finally giving people a chance to fight back. ***(Channel 4, 9pm)***

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26

THE OTHER MICHAEL JACKSON: In 1978, Blame It on the Boogie was performed by two Michael Jacksons: the one who wrote it, Mick Jackson from Yorkshire; and the late King of Pop, Michael Jackson.

In this First Cut film, Mick's son, Sam Peter Jackson, travels to his father's farm in Germany to find out what went on behind the scenes when Mick and Michael went head-to-head in the most unlikely of chart battles. ***(Channel 4, 7.30pm)***

TRUE BLOOD: Anna Paquin's exquisite form isn't be the only reason to tune in to True Blood, as it's actually rather good too.

While most viewers will have to wait a while longer to catch up with the not-so-good townspeople of Bon Temps on terrestrial television, FX viewers will be keenly anticipating the second series getting underway tonight.

In the opener, Dallas vampires employ Sookie's telepathy to help find their lost companion, while her relationship with Bill is tested when she learns the truth about his involvement in her uncle's death. ***(FX, 10pm)***

KENT ON SUNDAY
REVIEW

BY **JANE CONNOLLY**

Dave's

Adventurous fu



THE element of surprise is crucial for an enjoyable life, according to adventurous comedian Dave Gorman.

Whether travelling around the world in search of his namesakes or living by the whim of an astrologer, the imaginative comic never tires of a challenge. His latest tour – Sit Down, Pedal, Pedal, Stop and Stand-Up – is his first for many years to comprise a straightforward stand-up show, with no outlandish idea behind it. But unsurprisingly, even this simple premise has its origins in one of Gorman's trademark 'big ideas'.

Last year Gorman cycled 1,500 miles across the country, visiting all four corners of the British mainland and performing comedy every night of the epic trip.

"The show isn't about the journey, though with the nature of the shows I've done in the past, it would be reasonable to think it might be," he told Review. "Initially I thought I would like to do a bike ride. I was getting more and more keen on cycling, so I was thinking about riding from Land's End to John O'Groats because it's the iconic route.

"But I looked into it and found they were not the southern and northern-most points, so I looked into doing east to west too and thought that would be exciting.

"It was not to do with the gigs, it was just a man approaching 40 and wanting to think he's still young enough to do a big bike ride."

His manager talked him into incorporating the ride with a comedy tour but, due to the nature of the route, Gorman was only able to perform in certain areas of the country.

Demand for the show naturally grew and so he is continuing the tour this year, albeit with transport that will leave him less saddle-sore. Although this show does not have a 'hook' as many previous ones did, Gorman will soon be on the look-out again for interesting new projects.

"To do comedy well, you have to be interested in it. I can't just do a new tour of stand-up every year because I won't be as interested and that won't be as good for an audience. I want to be proud of it."

A few years ago he launched a mission to meet other Dave Gormans around the world, while other exploits have included trying to drive across America without using any chain retailers and living purely by the advice of an astrologer for 40 days.

Taking risks

For Gorman, 38, breaking away from the norm and seeing what life throws at him is an exhilarating approach.

"I would rather have life as a rollercoaster than a train. If you're going to have the ups, you need to have something to compare them to," he said. "I would rather go to a different coffee shop every day and sometimes have bad coffee and sometimes have the best coffee in the world, than go to the same one every day and always have acceptable coffee.

"I like to take risks and if you're going to do that, you have to accept it won't always be a nice surprise."

With such a diverse variety of adventures under his belt, Gorman struggled to pick a favourite, although one in particular – Googlewhack Adventure, in which he became captivated by internet search entries that produce just one hit – had its dark side.

"They all vary so much, for different reasons. Reasons To Be Cheerful was a 90-minute exploration of the lyrics of the song and it was really special, because it was the first show of its kind and I discovered a whole load of things I could do," he said. "Googlewhack Adventure was not something I started for fun; it was about me having a breakdown. I can't look back on it fondly, but it was about turning a negative thing into a positive. It's about when life comes to get you and fighting back."

Gorman started out in comedy at the age of 19, dropping out of university to pursue a career in the spotlight. His experiences and approach to life in general have left him with a healthy respect for other people who take risks.

"I had nothing to lose, but some of my friends have been in their mid-20s, with a job and a kid and a car on the drive, when they decide to get into stand-up," he said. "That's an amazing decision because you've got stuff to lose.

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Protecting our passion through harsh winters

By JANE JEWIT

THIS winter is already in the record books, here in the UK it was the coldest for 30 years and globally the coldest for 60 years.

So much for my intention to reduce my central heating bills, keep working in the garden and keep my pelargoniums blooming in the greenhouse all winter.

It is said that a cold winter is the gardener's best friend. Prolonged freezing temperatures will have killed off many garden pests; but that goes across the board, and the good bugs will have suffered equally.

So what to do now? If you have shrubs with branches hanging twisted or broken, don't be tempted to prune them until the temperature is at least two degrees above freezing, and set to stay that way for a few days and nights. There is a possibility of die-back if shrubs are pruned when the weather is very cold.

Don't be too hasty to pull up dead looking scraps that were last summer's pride and joy. Wait till the end of April before acting, and that at the very earliest. I can tell you that last summer a rather tender passionflower waited until August before it showed any signs of growth at all. No doubt it will do the same again this year.

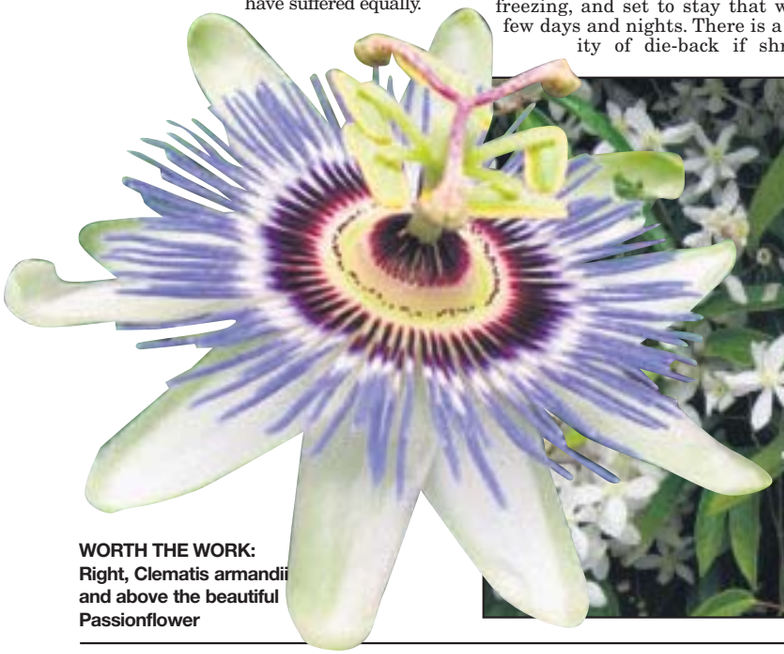
The winter snow and cold followed a very wet autumn. When the cold weather came along, the saturated ground froze, and plants on poorly drained soils will have suffered a double whammy. If you have heavy clay soil, you will have to keep your fingers crossed for many weeks to come.

And now we are looking forward to the warmer days, the start of spring and the planting season. What will I be doing in my garden? Will my compost heap be full of dead and damaged plants and will my car be overflowing with fully hardy plants, good stalwarts that will not let me down whatever the weather?

No, I will continue to plant half-hardy shrubs, as usual. I will site them away from frost pockets and the early morning sun, and shelter them between other hardier specimens. I am prepared to coax them through their first few winters until they develop a good woody structure, which will give them a degree of protection against cold spells.

I will add loads of organic matter to improve the soil structure, to improve drainage on heavy soil and improve water-holding capacity on light soils. That is the best insurance policy to help young plants get through a difficult season. Good drainage is the key to getting many of our garden plants through the winter.

We do live in the south of England. The summers can be hot and very dry, and winters are rarely as hard as this last one.





WORTH THE WORK: Right, Clematis armandii and above the beautiful Passionflower



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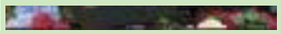
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creating inspiration for your home

Try Chinese

Oriental design could bring your home exotically to life. Celebrate the style and the Chinese New Year

By **GABRIELLE FAGAN**

IF YOU'RE craving excitement and glamour in your life to lighten the gloom of winter, you could indulge in a flirtation at home – with the East.

Exotic oriental accessories and glossy, lacquered furniture in Chinese style could be just what your rooms, and your spirits, need to lift them out of the doldrums.

And as this year, Chinese New Year coincided with Valentine's Day last Sunday, it could be the ideal time to open your heart and your home to this look.

"There's a beauty and sensuality about the design and decoration of this furniture which is the secret of its enduring appeal," said Jemma Page, founder and partner at Orchid Furniture, which specialises in antique, reproduction and restored Chinese furniture.

"Nowadays people are seeking special pieces that give rooms personality, character and the ultimate 'wow' factor. Chinese furniture, with its elegance and craftsmanship, fulfils all those expectations."

As in any new relationship, it's wise to take things slowly. Experiment initially with beautiful ornaments to add a touch of luxury – a bowl or vase in glowing gold or vibrant red as both these colours are traditionally considered lucky in Chinese culture.

If they win you over, take things a step further and invest in a 'star' feature, such as a sleek, glossy, lacquered sideboard or perhaps a colourful cabinet embellished with butterflies and flowers.

"Modern interiors have moved away from a total 'look' where rooms are dominated by one style or design. A one-off piece looks much more striking and well-planned than an entire 'themed' room," says Page.

"And the classic design and clean lines of this furniture allow it to fit comfortably into any setting, from period through to contemporary."

There's no need to get your passport out and travel far afield if you have a yen for the style.

Choose from our selection to satisfy a fling – or go wild as it is the year of the Tiger – and have a full-on exotic affair.





BLOSSOM: Top, World of Colour Misaki red and chocolate wallcovering £10.99 per roll; above, ladies' cabinet £595 from Shimu.co.uk

Oriental retreat

"Eastern rooms are characterised by their simplicity, order and symmetry, which makes them serene, peaceful and relaxing," said Charlotte Boyd, style editor at House Beautiful magazine.

"Paint walls in neutrals as a perfect backdrop to show off stunning pieces of dark wood furniture, but if that's too cool for you, be inspired by the Chinese colour palette.

"It's dominated by reds, and a vivid shade could be used effectively for drama on a feature wall."

Eastern destinations: Designer Kevin McCloud has three appropriate shades, inspired by the East, in his paint collection for Fired Earth. Look for Cinnabar Red, Cochineal or Madder Red.





STATEMENT: Above, Black lacquer CD cabinet, £525, from Supatra; right, Fu dogs set £40 at John Lewis

style off the design menu

Alternatively, follow the trend for decorative wallpaper, with Farrow & Ball's Bamboo range, available in 30 colour choices.

Bargain buy: Focus DIY has chosen cherry blossom, China's signature bloom, for its Misaki wallpaper, £10.99 a roll.

Dragons' den

"Chinese furniture is generally compact in size and shallow in depth so it doesn't dominate in rooms," says Jemma Page.

"Dark or lacquered furniture is enduringly popular, but we've seen a growing demand for colourful, wedding cabinets embellished with decoration.

"These were traditionally given by a bride as her dowry to her husband on the eve of her wedding."

Eastern destinations: It's easy to suit your taste and your pocket at Orchid Furniture, which has a contemporary reproduction range as well as antiques and skilfully restored pieces.

Wedding cabinets start from around £1,400, an elm trunk in cinnabar red, £440, or a red and black console table, £690.

There's plenty to be inspired by in Oka's collection, with a significant range of black lacquer furniture, and Chinese water colour paintings starting from £199.

Check out its Stola dining table, £1,165, Harold chair, £285, and my favourite and it's newest addition, a red lacquer circular Voyage coffee table, which starts from £179.

Bargain buy: Win compliments for your taste by making a feature of a red Kyra cabinet, £299, from John Lewis. It's decorated with butterflies, and a large brass lock. Eye-catching locks were originally a sign of status and wealth.

Eastern dreams

It's easy to make an Eastern dream a reality if you choose furniture and accessories in this style for the bedroom.

"Glossy dark lacquered pieces are glamorous but easy on the eye, so are particularly suitable for a bedroom," says Colin McIntosh, director at Supatra, a specialist in oriental furniture.

Eastern destinations: Get the essence of the style at Shimu, whose classical Chinese furniture is handmade in elmwood by craftsmen in Shanghai using skills and techniques that have been passed down through generations.

Most pieces in the collection are reproductions of classic designs from China's Ming dynasty, while others are contemporary in style. A ladies' cabinet, £595, and an unusual black lacquer, Wave trunk, £455.

A boudoir's incomplete without a mirror. Oka's Nankin mirror, £345, is from its hand painted Chinoiserie collection, a key art form where furniture is embellished with Chinese designs.

Bedding scattered with pink cherry blossom would complete the look, and House of Fraser's aptly named, Chinoiserie collection could be perfect. Double duvet cover £70.

Bargain buy: Scotts of Stow's red lacquered Butterfly cabinet, £99.95.

Exotic touches

"Reduce the clutter, essential for an air of tranquility, with black lacquered storage or hide it behind a black lacquered screen," said Alison Cork, cost-conscious home design expert and founder of www.homesandbargains.co.uk.

Eastern destinations: Bring a sense of order by storing clothes, treasures and CDs in black lacquered former medicine cabinet with 12 drawers, £525, one of the striking pieces in Supatra's range.

In China, the colour red signifies a desire to express oneself, and John Lewis has a creative collection of accessories in the shade.

A red and black Earthenware rice bowl, £4, an Oriental style Fanfare bolster cushion, £49, in red and white by Neisha Crosland, and a striking pair of red Fu dogs, £40.

The latter, or 'temple lions', are commonly placed on windowsills and by doors to ward off enemies.

Bargain buy: Evoke the spirit of the East with a sitting Buddha, £19.99 from Sainsbury's.







EASTERN PROMISE: Left, Kyra medium cabinet, £299 from John Lewis; above, OKA furniture and accessories from £20; right, House of Fraser Chinoiserie bedding from £12

Passport to style

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- Fired Earth: 01295 812088/wwww.firedearth.com
- Focus DIY: 0800 436 436/www.focusdiy.co.uk
- House of Fraser: 0870 160 7270/www.houseoffraser.co.uk
- John Lewis: 08456 049 049/www.johnlewis.com
- OKA: 0844 815 7380/www.okadirect.com
- Orchid Furniture: 01264 811111/www.orchidfurniture.co.uk
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Cut the confusion over

By **HANNAH STEPHENSON**

I LOVE the huge flowers of hybrid clematis as they climb up trellis and fencing, or weave their way through less interesting shrubs, wrap themselves around tree trunks and scramble over old walls to create a burst of colour, often in shadier places.

They make perfect companions entwined with deliciously scented climbing roses covering arches and pagodas in the romantic garden, or simply climbing up unsightly walls or fences to act as a colourful screen.

In fact, different types of clematis can provide you with flowers for most of the year.

Yet, clematis are the climbers which cause the most confusion when it comes to pruning because there are three groups of them, and if you prune the wrong type at the wrong time you'll ruin your chances for blooms this year.

Group 1 clematis, which flower in spring, bloom on stems which grew the previous year and are generally pruned after flowering. They are often rampant growers with large numbers of relatively small flowers – C macropetala and C montana are well-known examples, although C alpina, cirrhosa and amandii also fall into this group. Prune them straight after flowering by clipping the sideshoots back to a few buds of the main framework.

They should not be pruned in the winter, or you'll cut off all the shoots and lose the new season's flowers.

Now is the time to prune summer-flowering clematis, the Group 2 types, which bloom on stems produced in the current season. They are pruned in late winter or early spring to remove much of last year's growth. If left unchecked they will produce flowers, but they will tend to be at the end of the plant where you probably won't be able to see them.

Group 2 clematis include many of the large-flowered hybrids, including the most famous pink striped variety 'Nelly



Nelly Mos

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clematis



Moser', the rich purple 'The President' and other popular types including 'Marie Boisselot' and 'Lasurstern'.

The aim with pruning Group 2 clematis is to retain a framework of old wood, and also to stimulate new shoots to maximise flowering throughout the season.

Unless the plant already has three or four healthy stems growing from the base, all newly planted clematis should be pruned back hard the first spring after planting. Cut back to just above a strong pair of leaf buds about 30cm above soil level. This will encourage multiple stems which can be trained into supports to give a good coverage.

With established plants, remove dead or weak stems before growth begins, check individual stems from the top down until you reach a pair of healthy buds, and prune just above them, removing the spindly or damaged growth above. The ones that flower first in early summer, and again in late summer, need a tidy-up rather than a heavy prune.

Those which must be pruned now are those which don't start flowering until June, and keep going until the autumn, as they make vigorous growth and only flower on the very ends of the shoots.

They can be cut back to a pair of fresh green buds about 30cm in early spring, and then new growth tied into the supports.

Some mid-to-late summer flowering clematis can be treated as either Group 2 or Group 3, as desired, including 'Comtesse de Bouchaud', 'Gipsy Queen' and 'Hagley Hybrid'.

Group 3 are late summer and autumn-flowering clematis including viticella and texensis and some large-flowered types including 'Niobe', 'Perle d'Azure' and 'Ernest Markham'. They flower on both last year's and the current season's growth.

In the first year, prune them back in late winter or early spring to the lowest pair of healthy-looking buds you can find, which will be about 30-90cm above the ground.

This may mean cutting off green, healthy shoots, but the plant will reshoot from the base and be better for it.



Clematis viticella



The President



Grow your own with Dirty Nails

February on the plot

BROAD BEANS

Dirty Nails has planted out his broad beans this week. The productive and very early 'Witkeim' variety is his choice for sowing at this time of year.

The large, browny-grey seeds feel substantial in his hand and Dirty Nails loves planting them. He places the magical pieces on the surface of the evenly raked soil in a line at 12cm intervals. If he sows a double row, then he allows 20cm between lines.

When he has set his seeds out as desired, he gently presses them into the soil end-on to a depth of 5cm and covers them over. If it is cold Dirty Nails puts cloches over the top to keep the seedbed warmer.

Home-grown broads really do taste completely different to shop-bought, and are highly nutritious. With luck, a sowing this week will be producing pods of fat beans around mid-summer.

Some facts about the broad bean:

Scientifically, the broad bean is Vicia faba, also known as the 'fava bean'. Horse bean or field bean are other alternatives, although these last two names generally refer to crops that are commonly grown as animal fodder.

Broads popular for human consumption nowadays are larger-seeded varieties. Native to North Africa and south west Asia, these beans are believed to have been part of the European diet even before 6000BC.

They were particularly popular in the Stone Age Mediterranean region. European folklore has it that planting this crop either on Good Friday or at night time is a harbinger of good luck.

Broad beans are rich in protein, so much so that they have been called 'vegetable meat'. Vitamins A and C are readily available, so too phosphorous. Broads contain the cancer-fighting substance lectin, so may help in this department also.





BEAN FEAST: Above, now is the time to get your broad beans planted ready for picking in mid-summer; and you can begin to plant lettuces (right) in the greenhouse now, or indoors

SOWING LETTUCES

In the greenhouse, or indoors, Dirty Nails has been sowing lettuces. Iceberg 'Talia' or 'Lobjoits Green Cos' are ideal for sowing now, 5mm deep and 25mm apart, in trays of moist compost. As soon as the second pair of true leaves are forming he gets them out into the sunniest spot possible. Dirty Nails pegs plastic bells over his first outdoor lettuces, which brings them on a treat. With a bit of luck these lettuces will be ready for cutting and eating by late April or early May. This is one of those early-season moments that makes life worth living.

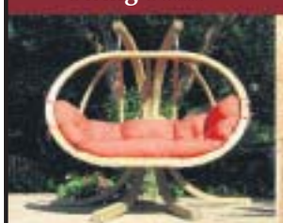
• On The Plot With Dirty Nails (ISBN 9781905862320) is available from www.dirtynails.co.uk or Amazon, rrp £10.99.

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The ball itself is made of porcelain and available in black or white, it is frost proof so can be left out in all weathers. It has a large removable oil reservoir in weatherproof stainless steel and plastic that is easy to fill. The lamp burns steadily with its thick fibreglass wick, which is not easily extinguished in windy conditions.

The balls retail at £59.95. www.menu.as.



Interior designer, Helle Hylleberg answers readers' design dilemmas



Q I would like to do something to freshen up the look in my bedroom. It is predominantly white.

Kathy, Sevenoaks

A If you want minimum effort, pick out some colourful new bed linen. If you want to be a bit different find an old ladder, paint it and use it for fun bedside storage for magazines, books etc.

Q Can you advise as to which new trends are going to be in this spring?

Dotty, Walmer

A Eco, earthy, thrift seems to be the main words that spring to mind. Ceramics, lots of colours and even patch work. Take a look at these fabulous cushions at www.thetravellingsouk.com.

If you have any questions you'd like to ask Helle, email hylleberg@live.co.uk or post them, marked Homes & Gardens Q & A, to KOS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.



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Rooms that are child's play

Turn on the style for kids' rooms so they'll love to play in them and, when they're older, stay in them! We've checked out children's style

By **GABRIELLE FAGAN**

SMALL children can be boisterous, imaginative and messy little beasts, and those endearing qualities mean they make a huge impact on your home.

Their belongings seem to spread into every nook and cranny, and there's no way sensible parents want to spend their whole time stressing about mess or constantly shrieking 'tidy up'.

So the best approach is to create a bedroom that a child loves, and one where it's easy to play, feel safe and, most importantly, is fun to be in.

It should be their own special space where they can also have their friends, and a snug sanctuary at the end of the day for story-telling sessions before bedtime.

Beware of being too grown-up when you plan and decorate this room.

"It's very tempting to want to decorate your child's room to suit your own taste and style," said Sarah Quilliam, head of product design for Hillarys, specialist blind company.

Ideally, the room should be able to grow and change as you child does, so that you're not involved in constant redecoration.

Colourful furnishings rather than brightly-painted walls, cots that transform into beds, stylish rather than 'cute' furniture and versatile storage are all ways to keep costs down.





CHILD STYLE: Above, Wizard bedand matching furniture from B&Q; right, Cotton Dreams fabric, from £19 per square metre, JAB Fabric

Classic rooms

"Plain white or wood furniture provides the perfect backdrop for bed linen and accessories with colour and personality," advises Chrissie Rucker, founder of The White Company.

The White Company range for children includes a handsome, Nantucket First Bed, £225, with removable sides. Complement it with white painted Playroom Shelving sets, from £175, and matching junior-size chair and table sets. Table, £95 and bench, £75.

Mamas & Papas furniture range is comprehensive. A sleek, contemporary Horizons range, in a light oak effect with steel handles, is unlikely to date. Cot/junior bed, £440.

Alternatively, the Prairie collection, white tongue and groove trimmed with oak, is just as good looking and well-priced. Cot bed, £250 and bookcase, £225.

Feather & Black's collection is inspired by vintage design. A Sunflower iron bed, painted white and embellished with pink sunflowers, £399, is also available as a fourposter.

Bargain buy: Cot bed from The White Company, suitable for a baby and child up to the age of six, currently reduced online from £350 to £245.

Tip: Crouch down to your child's height so you can see the the room through his eyes. It will help ensure storage is planned so it's easy to reach and use.

Exciting beds

Designers are transforming what is often the largest piece of furniture in a room into exciting play spaces as well as somewhere to sleep.

Enchant little girls with a 'fairy palace' Galaxy bed, £299 from Littlewoods, which has a pink tower, a tunnel and a slide from the top bunk to the floor.

The company also has a bed for budding boy racers. Red sportscar bed, £129, with a back 'spoiler' shelf for treasures.

Bargain buy: Ikea's Kura bed, £109, converts from a low bed to a high one, and can be covered by a magical-looking tent, £10, which mimics a night sky.

Top tip: "Blackout blinds at windows make it easier to settle small children on light evenings and should stop them waking at dawn during summer months," said Sarah Quilliam.

Hillarys deep blue Night Sky blind features moons and stars, and starts from £54 measured, made and fitted.

Small spaces big style

Little ones often prefer cosy spaces but you need versatile furniture to make the most of every corner of a compact room.

"Just because it's small, doesn't mean you can't maximise the space," says Fionnuala Johnston, design co-ordinator at B&Q.

"Look for a bed that's more than a bed – one with storage or an extra bed underneath. And choose extra storage that can hang on the wall or back of the door."

B&Q's pine Felix Low Cabin Bed with storage, £255, is ideal for children of any age, or its white painted Wizard range has a bed with ladder, £212.50, matching pull-out desk and bookcase, £63.75 each, and chest, £76.50.

Hideaway beds are useful, especially when children have the inevitable 'sleep overs', and Marks & Spencer has a solid oak Radcot Hideaway bed, £599, which includes two mattresses as just one of the stars in its new Kids At Home range.

Bargain buy: Marks's Sleep Station, £475, is an outright winner on style and value. In a pine or white-painted finish, it cleverly incorporates a pull-out desk with cupboard, an open shelving unit, and a three-drawer unit.

Tip: Enhance space by painting walls one colour and pick a theme colour for furnishings. To add easy storage, French company Vertbaudet has enchanting storage chests on wheels, £29, and boxes decorated with animals and flowers.

Delight in detail

Think outside the traditional decorating box – blue for a boy, pink for a girl – and try restful greens or perhaps a welcome touch of sunshine yellow for walls.

"Have a neutral shade on three walls, a splash of colour for the feature wall, or bring a room to life with decorative borders or wall stickers," suggests B&Q's Fionnuala Johnston. B&Q Colours Silk paint in Sunflower, £10.98 for 2.5 litres, and wall stickers: Dora, Thomas the Tank Engine or Disney characters, from £8.98.

You're literally spoilt for choice when it comes to beautiful children's bedding at stores such as Laura Ashley and Marks & Spencer, and many of the ranges have co-ordinating curtains and accessories.

Alternatively, The White Company has two ranges I particularly like, a Yachting set for boys, in classic white and blue.

Luxury quilt and cushion, from £70, and 'Gone Sailing' sign, £14, or Amelia for girls, with pink and white flowers and hearts. Duvet cover £45.

Make your own furnishings by plundering fabric ranges at stores such as John Lewis, or German company JAB's new collection of cotton fabrics embroidered with children's motifs from fairy cakes and giraffes to elephants. Fabric from £19 per square metre.

Kid's sources

- Laura Ashley: 0871 230 2301/www.lauraashley.com
- B&Q: 0845 850 0175/www.diy.com
- Feather & Black: 01243 380 600/ www.featherandblack.com
- Hillarys: 0800 916 6516/www.hillarys.co.uk
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- Littlewoods: 08705 99 11 11/www.littlewoodsdirect.com
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- Marks & Spencer: 0845 603 1603/www.marksandspencer.com
- Pussy Home Boutique: Tel: 01273 749 852/www.pussyhome-boutique.co.uk
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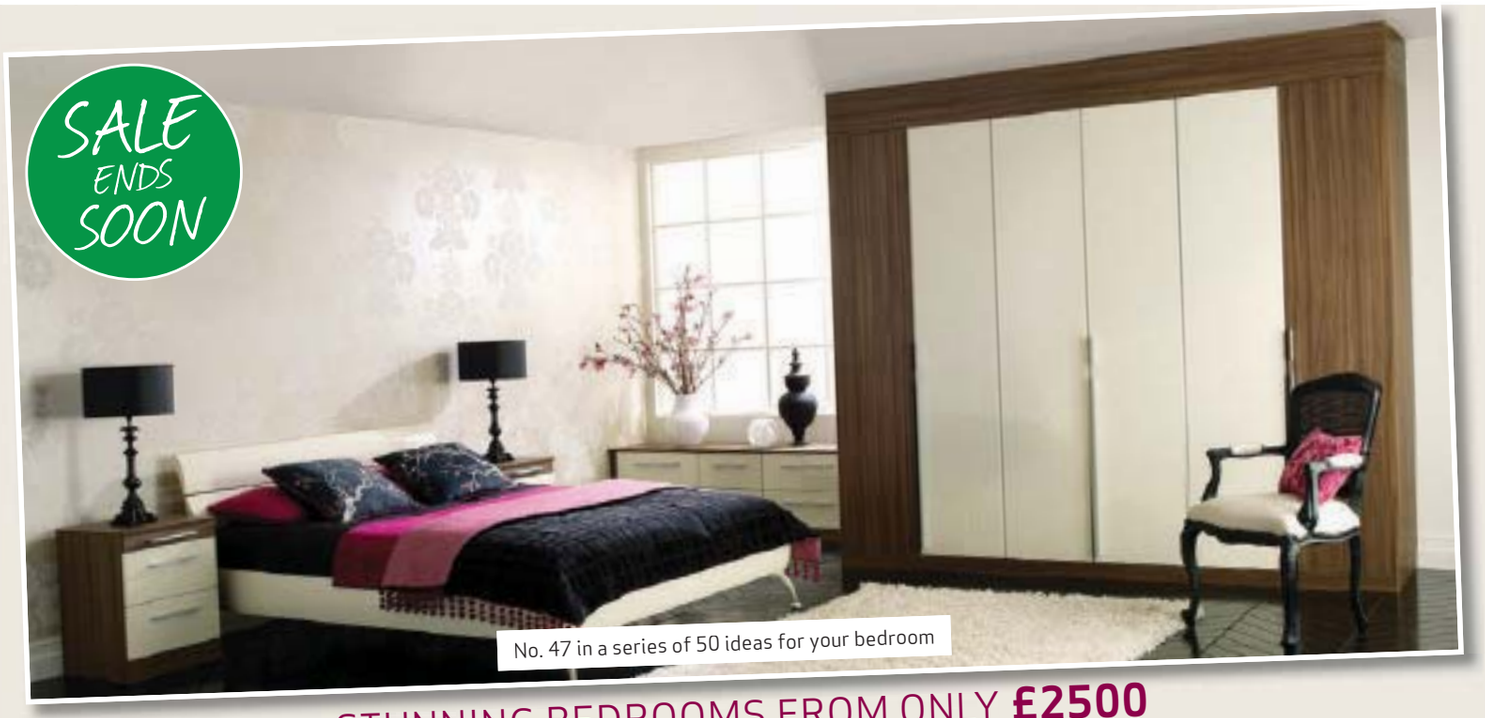
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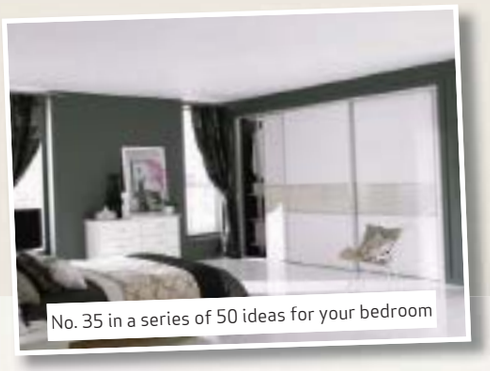
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s on his bike

unnyman pedals his comedy



TAKING CHANCES: Dave Gorman likes to throw himself into his comedy, enjoying taking risks and the exhilaration when they pay off

"To do it properly, you have to do it full-time and that's a financial risk. When you're 19, you have the folly of youth and you don't realise the jeopardy of it. You're just a kid, so you haven't been taught to be scared yet. Doing it later is a really brave decision."

Gorman's next big adventure will be marriage, but he is waiting for life to surprise him when it comes to his next professional project.

"I want to be surprised, so I try not to plan too much. I like doing my TV show Genius, so I want to do more of that. I want to write a novel at some point, but I don't think I'll ever do it. I've written non-fiction books that are successful, but one is about my failure to write fiction and that is the Holy Grail, to beat that demon."

• ***Dave Gorman can be seen at the Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone, on Wednesday and the Assembly Hall Theatre, Tunbridge Wells, next Sunday.***



Top price buys you top quality

RESTAURANT REVIEW

BY **GARETH ARNOLD**



IT'S a sign of the times that the Hengist, one of Kent's pricier dining options, is touting a cheaper menu alongside its standard a la carte offering.

The Market Menu, available on Tuesday and Friday evenings, offers a three-course meal in the same modern European vein as the standard menu, for a very reasonable £20, excluding drinks and side orders.

Perhaps more surprising, the high-end Aylesford restaurant seems to have shaved a couple of pounds off dishes on the standard menu, too.

This could set alarm bells ringing, but on the evidence of my meal last week, there's thankfully been no credit crunch-inspired corner cutting in terms of food or service.

The restaurant aims high, as you might expect when prices hover around the £60-a-head mark for drinks and food.

When we arrived we were offered a taster of duck, a meaty mouthful presented in the bowl of a teaspoon.

This was followed by an espresso cup full of rich, peppery gazpacho. Both of these were unordered (and uncharged for) extras which help to make a visit to the Hengist special.

For my starter I chose the ballotine of foie gras, coated in an amoretti crumble and served with quince puree and brioche (£10.95).

It was an inspired combination, with the various elements working together to create a truly memorable experience. The sweetness of the amoretti and brioche was a perfect accompaniment to the foie gras, and the quince puree – formed into tiny cubes, provided an interesting textural contrast.

My companion's truffled deep-fried duck egg (£7.25) was expertly cooked, with a soft, runny yolk within a crispy outer shell of light batter.

The Hengist offers a decent selection of wines by the glass, and as my companion had generously offered to drive, I decided to make the most of it. I accompanied my starter with a glass of dry and lemony Knapstein hand-picked Riesling 2007 (£7).

With my main course, a poached sirloin of 32-day hung beef (£19.75) I needed something richer, and a smooth glass of Californian Delicato Shiraz (£7) fulfilled the job admirably.

It took something fairly robust to stand any chance against the well-hung steak, which I ordered blue.

The whole dish – including olive oil mash and caramalised smoked bacon – was a powerful, pungent combination of earthy goodness.

My companion's 12-hour braised belly of land race pork (£16.95) was equally rich, while perhaps not quite as flavoursome. It could also have done with a crispier skin – I am a big fan of snappable crackling combined with the soft meat and melting fat of perfectly cooked pork belly, although the blue cheese puree was a welcome addition.

For pudding I had an amazing pear tart tatin with calvados caramel and vanilla ice-cream (£7.95). An incredibly light pastry formed a base for the sugary, complex caramel flavours, a dessert for those possessing the sweetest of sweet teeth. To compliment this I chose a glass of D'Arenburg Australian Riesling dessert wine (£7).

A further taster dish of petit fours was brought out at the end of the meal to go with our coffee, the highlight of which were bite size portions of salty fudge.

Service throughout the meal was exemplary, and as with everything at the Hengist, the attention to detail was second to none.

This extended to the waitresses re-folding our napkins when we got up, and replacing them when we returned.

The total bill – with only one of us drinking – came to £102.80, and if you are looking for a really indulgent meal to mark a special occasion, the Hengist is a choice I'd have no hesitation in recommending.

The Hengist, 7 to 9 High Street, Aylesford, Kent, ME20 7AX
Telephone: 01622 719273

Review visits and pays for meals anonymously.

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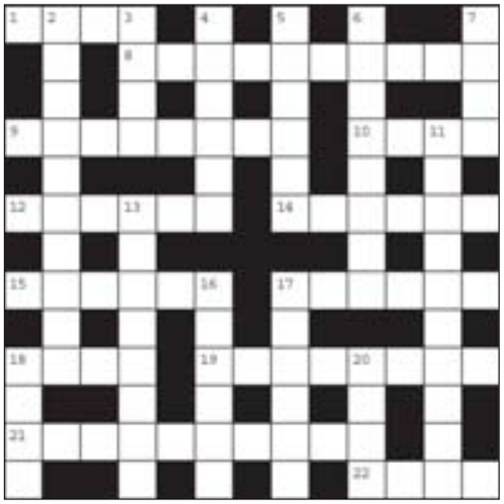
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CROSSWORD No 375

Name.....

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.....

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CRYPTIC CLUES

Across

1. Uninteresting accommodation? (4)
8. The result of striking another match (10)
9. Produced a score without being flustered (8)
10. Does some shooting – arrest on return (4)
12. Noblemen put nothing in storehouses (6)
14. Almost the last conveyance for a foreign seaman (6)
15. Forceful company fellow (6)
17. Unusual German receptacle for fodder (6)
18. Some of the brandy essence changes colour (4)
19. A red lime could be beneficial to health (8)
21. One in charge of splendid load on the ship? (10)
22 & 7 Down. Work longer hours, being far from placid (8)

Down

2. Where experiments are made with Labour speech-making (10)
3 & 20 Down. Presumably there'll be a catch to this opening! (4-4)
4. Diverts us in the same arrangement (6)
5. A restraint, we hear, concerning the nuptials (6)
6. Stop being paid up before a lad (8)
7. See 22 Across
11. Commerce notes manufacturers' labels (5-5)
13. Foreman prophet? (8)
16. Car reversed in the Greek region (6)
17. More disturbed i my recollection (6)
18. The record is held in District Columbia (4)
20. See 3 Down

QUICK CLUES

Across

1. Slight quarrel (4)
8. Unrelenting (10)
9. Of the home (8)
10. Pile (4)
12. Indifference (6)
14. Cowardly (6)
15. Lapwing (6)
17. Parched (6)
18. Minus (4)
19. Ultimate (8)
21. Law-maker (10)
22. Pitcher (4)

Down

2. Imperfect (10)
3. Penalty (4)
4. Sentinel (6)
5. Irritable (6)
6. Single man (8)
7. Profound (4)
11. Hateful (10)
13. Municipality (8)
16. Threefold (6)
17. Agreement (6)
18. Calm (4)
20. Weary (4)

CRYPTIC SOLUTIONS 374: Across: 7 Order; 8 Hitches; 9 Tractor; 10 Reins; 12 Ice-breaker; 15 Second-hand; 18 Still; 19 Needled; 21 Resides; 22 Alarm. Down: 1 Fortresses; 2 Ideal; 3 Fret; 4 Cherub; 5 Surgeon; 6 Shrieks; 11 Struck dumb; 13 Conclude; 14 Eclipse 16 Honest; 17 Pleas; 20 Elan. **QUICK SOLUTIONS 375:** Across: 1 Tiff; 8 Inexorable; 9 Domestic; 10 Heap; 12 Apathy; 14 Yellow; 15 Peewit; 17 Torrid; 18 Less; 19 Eventual; 21 Legislator; 22 Ewer. Down: 2 Incomplete; 3 Fine; 4 Sentry; 5 Touchy; 6 Bachelor; 7 Deep; 11 Abominable; 13 Township; 16 Treble; 17 Treaty; 18 Lull; 20 Tire.

• The winner of the last crossword (no 374) is George Tyson, Tunbridge Wells





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Hotel	Date	Nights	Broc Price	Our Price
Littlecote House	March 1	4	£279	£229
Berkshire	March 8	4	£279	£229



Hotel	Date	Nights	Broc Price	Our Price
Sinah Warren	March 1	4	£239	£185
Hayling Island	March 15	4	£244	£199
	March 22	4	£249	£215



Hotel	Date	Nights	Broc Price	Our Price
Thoresby Hall	March 1	4	£289	£239
Nottinghamshire	March 8	4	£289	£239



Hotel	Date	Nights	Broc Price	Our Price
Corton*	March 5	3	£159	£129
Suffolk	March 8	4	£164	£139
chalet	March 19	3	£159	£129
accommodation	March 22	4	£169	£139



Hotel	Date	Nights	Broc Price	Our Price
Gunton Hall*	March 8	4	£184	£159
Suffolk	March 15	4	£184	£155
chalet accommodation	March 22	4	£189	£159



Hotel	Date	Nights	Broc Price	Our Price
Lakeside*	March 1	4	-	£209
FREE BAR from 12noon to 11pm each day (not departure day)				
Hayling Island	March 8	4	£174	£140
chalet accommodation	March 12	3	£169	£139

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...**Jobs for Kent** continued from page 32

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for more information

EXPERIENCED DISPENSER

Required for busy GP surgery in Littlebourne (must have NVQ II in pharmaceutical services or equivalent qualification)

Hours negotiable.

Please phone 01227 721561 for informal chat and/or job description.

Excellent terms and conditions.
Friendly working environment.
Applications in writing to Practice Manager, Bridge Health Centre, Patrixbourne Road, Bridge, Canterbury CT4 5BL.

Goldspring Jones

Margate based criminal lawyers seek a

LEGAL SECRETARY

for a full time position

Good audio typing, spelling and telephone manner required.

Please send CV FAO
Miss S Sutherland
Goldspring Jones Solicitors Limited
170 Northdown Road, Cliftonville, Kent, CT9 2QT

No agencies please

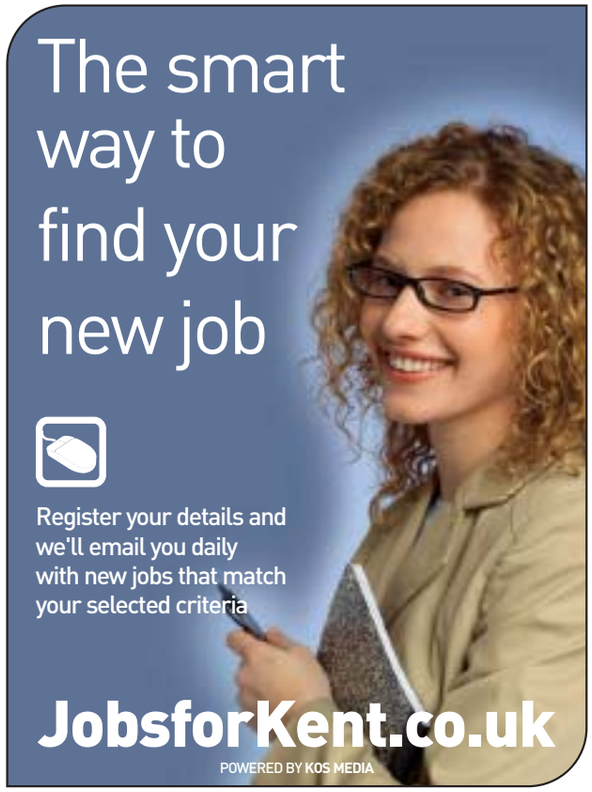


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HIGH CALIBRE PA/EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

red star FIRE & SECURITY

Required for the Director of the London Based Commercial Company

Salary: £19,000 per year (OTE up to £37,000)

Contract: Permanent corporate

Working from Home. Full Apple Mac book and iPhone to be provided.

This is a highly prestigious role working for a very well respected businessman in London. Working as part of an incredibly slick and polished team.

Based in London SW1, we are looking for an experienced and traditional PA/Executive Assistant to support our team. You will be looking after a huge client database, required to arrange meetings and plan presentations, also providing support to other sales consultants. Liaising with high profile clients within the UK and able to develop strong working relationships.

You will have had previous experience where you have supported someone with very high expectations. The role involves upmost discretion as you are dealing with high-net worth clients on a day-to-day basis. You will have excellent attention to detail, a well-spoken telephone manner and have good administration and secretarial experience.

Please send your CV to: admin@redstarfireandsecurity.com
F.A.O Lee Reid

Young Person's Drug and Alcohol Treatment Worker

£21,519 - £27,849 PRO RATA • MATERNITY COVER (MIN 6 MONTHS)
30 HOURS PER WEEK • ESSENTIAL CAR USER ALLOWANCE OF UP TO £1,170 PER ANNUM PRO RATA • BASED CANTERBURY / THANET

KCA (UK) is an expanding and vibrant organisation providing a wide range of high quality and innovative specialist services in the drug, alcohol and mental health sectors.

This post will involve one to one work with young drug and alcohol users (aged 10 - 18) experiencing complex difficulties. These may include concerns around mental health, safeguarding, homelessness, offending, and chaotic substance misuse issues.

Covering Canterbury and Thanet, we are looking for someone with good substance misuse knowledge, excellent communication and casework skills and proven experience of working effectively with young drug and alcohol users.

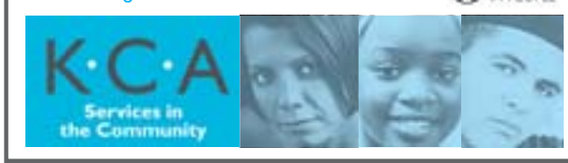
Application forms and job descriptions can be downloaded from www.kca.org.uk or call 01795 590635. Please quote reference 639.

Closing date: Monday 8 March 2010.

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse. Charity no: 292824.

www.kca.org.uk

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE



TERMS AND CONDITIONS

KOS MEDIA (PUBLISHING) LTD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Advertisements will be accepted only on the express condition that the advertiser warrants that the advertisement does not in any way contravene any existing legislation and in particular the Trade and Description Act 1968 and the Consumer Credit Act 1974.
2. It is the responsibility of all advertisers to ensure that all advertising meets all forms of government legislation and KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd (the "media owner") takes no responsibility for liability in errors and omissions to the content of our media.
3. All rates quoted are subject to VAT at the rate currently in force at the time the advertisement appears.
4. All rates within the annual advertising agreement will be rate protected for 12 months from the first date of publication under the signed agreement.
5. Any unsuitable material posted on any website belonging to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd by the advertiser or any associated third party will be removed or refused. All passwords and security supplied to the advertiser by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in relation to the use of the posting of material via the media owner's online administration tool will be the responsibility of the advertiser. The advertiser indemnifies KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd against any damages as a result of misuse of these privileges by either the advertiser or any third party given password privileges by the advertiser.
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7. Copyright and licenses for voice-over/music/photography or film for advertising promotions or otherwise within the various forms of media in print, online and moving film owned by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must have been sought, verified or paid for by the advertiser where applicable. Approval or permissions must have been given by any potential beneficial owner voice-over or music. The advertiser must be able to verify any statements or claims (promotional or otherwise) in relation to their products/services promoted within any of the media offerings belonging to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd.
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16. A minimum of one month's notice must be given in writing for any cancellation of the signed annual advertiser's agreement. Upon cancellation, all discounts from KOS Media's standard effective media advertising rate card (July 2008-June 2009) will be recalculated and adjusted accordingly in line with KOS Media's standard media rate card (effective July 2008-June 2009) and will reflect the revised length of commitment denoted by the advertiser's written cancellation. Any surcharges, refunds or costs in relation to the production of the advertiser's TV commercial for the commitment set out within the advertiser's agreement will be met in full by the advertiser as per KOS Media's standard media advertising rate card (July 2008-June 2009). Discounts will be reapplied and any refunds or surcharges will be paid by either party within 30 days of the advertiser's written cancellation. Any other advertising placed must give a minimum of seven days' written notice and any discounts given for series bookings will be forfeited by the advertiser upon cancellation.
17. Seasonal contracts, Your Professional classified advertisements or any uplift advertising within the annual contract with the advertiser will be invoiced in full - at rate card - on receipt of any written cancellation of this contract within the 12-months.
18. All uplift advertisements must be booked in at least three months in advance of publication and will be subject to availability. All dates booked will be on a first-come, first-served basis.
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20. Each advertiser accepts that their ranking and position within KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd's search engine will be equal to those within their category (Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze, etc) other than they will be ranked based on the search engine criteria of optimisation within their level (Platinum, Gold, Silver or Bronze).
21. Any delivery claims made by the advertiser or discount vouchers published within the print or online media of KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd and any action as a result of the public or otherwise is the sole responsibility of the advertiser. Any claims resulting from this via KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be met by the advertiser.
22. a. All credit accounts due for payment shall be notified to the Advertiser by the 30th day following the date of the invoice, time to be of the essence. All sums due to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd or RBS Factoring shall be paid in full, and the Advertiser shall have no right of set off in any circumstances.
b. In the event that payment is not received by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd or RBS Factoring by the due date, the media owner shall be entitled to suspend all further advertising until payment is received and/or repudiate the contract and make any surcharges for breaking the contract.
c. In the event that payment is not received by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd by the due date, the media owner reserves the right to charge interest on all overdue balances calculated on a daily basis at the rate of two per cent above the minimum lending rate of National Westminster Bank Plc from time to time in force.
d. Not withstanding anything in these terms and conditions or implied to the contrary, in the event of the Advertiser ceasing to use the services of KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd (for whatever reason), the whole amount of monies due from the Advertiser to the date of cessation shall fall due for immediate payment.
e. The Advertiser will be liable for all costs incurred by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in the recovery of debts not paid by the due date.
f. Payment may be made by cheque, credit transfer, direct debit, cash and any major credit card.
23. Any discount which KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd may have agreed with the Advertiser shall be forfeited in the event of failure by the Advertiser to complete the contract or to meet the above credit terms.
24. Advertising Agency commission will be allowed to those advertisers recognised by the Newspaper Society, but shall not exceed ten per cent and will be subject to the terms of that recognition. This commission will not be allowed if the Advertising Agency fails to meet the terms.
25. All private advertisements and certain categories as laid down by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be prepaid.
26. The Advertiser agrees to indemnify KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the media owners or any of the companies within the KOS Media Group as the result of legal action or threatened legal action or threatened legal arising from the publication of any advertisement or advertising promotion.
27. An order for an advertisement shall amount to acceptance of these terms and conditions, and any condition placed on an order by an Advertiser shall be null and void in so far as it conflicts with them.
28. Copyright in advertisements produced wholly or partially by the media owners belong to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd. Advertisers may not reproduce such advertisements without the media owner's written consent.

All terms and conditions stated above are in place to protect the advertiser, the media owner and the communities they serve within the public domain as well as the beneficial rights of individuals and organisations. KOS Media will endeavour to always act reasonably in applying its terms and conditions.

Effective from June 2008

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Abbey Court School

"WE GROW PEOPLE"

Abbey Court School, a 'special' school and a 'special'place to work.

We are currently looking for...

TEMPORARY TEACHER FOR PUPILS WITH SEVERE AND PROFOUND LEARNING DIFFICULTIES

STARTING 19TH APRIL UNTIL 23RD JULY 2010

(FIXED TERM CONTRACT)

MPS + 2 SEN Points

The school is located in pleasant surroundings and we have educational resources of enviable proportions. This post would suit newly qualified teachers or those wishing to gain further experience of SEN.

Comprehensive induction and training will be provided.

Telephone enquiries and informal visits to the school welcomed.

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of appointment for post is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

Due to the conditions and complex needs of the pupils at Abbey Court School, continuity and consistency of support is paramount and therefore candidates for all positions will need to commit to the full working hours of the post.

Closing Date: 5th March 2010

For further details and a job description, please contact Linda Taylor, Business Manager, Abbey Court School, Rede Court Road,

Strood, Rochester, Kent ME2 3SP

(Tel: 01634 338236)

The John Townsend Trust

Royal School for Deaf Children Margate
Westgate College for Deaf People
Community Living Services
Monkshill Farm

Residential Support Workers

£15,323 – 18,683 dependant on experience

You will:

- Be able to commit to flexible rotas including weekends and sleep-ins
- Be able to follow written care plans and maintain accurate records
- Be willing to learn British Sign Language and undertake other training (mandatory to pass in first year)
- Have experience of working co-operatively in a team.

You will demonstrate commitment to our Child and Adult Protection policies and procedures

We are committed to equal opportunities and diversity and welcome applications from all groups and communities. All positions are subject to an Enhanced CRB Disclosure check, satisfactory references, proof of qualifications and a fully checkable work history.

For application packs please contact Human Resources Department

Telephone 01843 227561, email: hr@royalschoolfordeaf.kent.sch.uk

Or download an application form from our website: www.townsendtrust.org

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Classic Education

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Primary • Secondary • Final Year Students
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Agency

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MAIDSTONE, ASHFORD,
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Call and speak with friendly, qualified education staff

Tel No: **01892 676076**
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Teachers Needed

Primary, Secondary and SEN.

Capita Education Resourcing is the leading provider of educational staff throughout the UK.

Our dedicated and friendly Kent team can provide you with:

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Even if you can only spare one day a week we would love to hear from you.

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or email enquiry.ers@capita.co.uk

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Committed to equal opportunities

MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas:

Lecturer in Electrical/Electronic Engineering Ref: P0678

Lecturer in Civil Engineering Ref: P0333

Lecturer in Mechanical Engineering Ref: P0219

Salary: £30,657 - £34,437 per annum

Medway

We are looking to recruit outstanding individuals to teach and participate in the development of programmes across the Faculty of Advanced Construction and Engineering which includes Electronic, Electrical, Mechanical Engineering and Civil Engineering disciplines. The successful candidates will possess qualities of reliability, have good communication skills and hold an HNC/HND/Foundation degree or higher in one or more of the above Engineering specialism's. Previous industry experience is essential. The ideal candidates will hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Hourly Paid Lecturer in Foundation Learning Ref: SE567

Hourly rate: £22.64- £27.46

Maidstone/Medway

We are looking to recruit an outstanding individual to teach and participate in the development of the Life and Work Skills for learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. The successful candidate will have good communication skills, a patient and mature attitude and hold or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification.

Kitchen Assistant Ref: P0049

25 hours per week, 38 weeks per year

Salary: £14,588- £16,638 pro-rata

Maidstone

We are looking to recruit a Kitchen Assistant to provide kitchen support for our Apprentice Restaurant and to help both students and Lecturers in the Catering department. A background in catering is essential, plus basic food hygiene and Health and Safety certificates.

Closing date: Friday 5 March 2010

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer

Action for Business College | Investors in Diversity | Positive About Disabled People | RBLI

To advertise in this section ✆ 01303 817040

2 Raywood Office Complex
Leacon Lane, Charing, Ashford, Kent. TN27 0ET
T: 01222 713813 F: 01233 713847
E: info@kentplayclubs.org.uk
W: www.kentplayclubs.org.uk
Registered Charity No: 1104141
Registered Company No: 4649786

Dance & Sports activities for Children (5-11 yrs) at After School Club sessions.

Do you have experience/qualifications of working with groups of children (5-11yrs) encouraging them to get involved in dance and/or sports activities? Are you available between 3-6pm on weekday evenings & during school holidays?
Salary & hours negotiable.
This project is supported by BBC Children in Need.
All applicants are subject to an enhanced CRB check.
Contact **Kent Play Clubs** for an application pack
01233 713813 or email: info@kentplayclubs.org.uk
Closing date for applications **5th March 2010.**

Are you looking for experience working in a child-care setting?

Are you currently unemployed or seeking employment? Kent Play Clubs has funding to provide volunteer work placements and support in improving job-seeking skills.
Places are currently available for a 10 week course including 6 weeks gaining experience at an After School Club. Gaining experience will improve your chance of securing employment.
If you are interested, please contact
Kent Play Clubs for an application pack.
01233 713813 or email: info@kentplayclubs.org.uk
This project is supported by the European Social Fund
All applicants are subject to an enhanced CRB check.
Closing date for applications **5th March 2010.**





Thanet is a beautiful place to work

Thanet is a great place to live and work. Our historic seaside towns of Ramsgate, Margate and Broadstairs are rich in heritage and opportunity. From the multi-million pound Turner Contemporary Gallery, the new fast speed rail link to London, and the popular Westwood Cross shopping centre - this is an exciting time to join Thanet District Council. We are determined to improve the quality of life for local people. We believe that by listening to local people, working in active partnership and by being prepared to do things in an innovative way we can accelerate improvement and best meet the challenges ahead.

Housing Improvement Officer (two vacancies)
Salary £26,940 – £30,738 per annum

The aim of the team is to improve the condition of housing in Thanet, so that people can live in safe and secure housing free from risks that might impair their health or well being.

We have 2 Housing Improvement Officer posts available. The main duties of these posts will be to meet the statutory duties of the Council with regard to Private Sector Housing, by enforcing national and local standards in housing and to implement a range of private sector housing initiatives, which provide solutions to local housing problems through education, persuasion and the provision of incentives.

One of the posts will focus on enforcement activity, whilst the other post will focus upon pro-active projects and policy work. Please ensure that you indicate which type of post you would prefer when applying.

You will be enthusiastic, hardworking, and be a team player. You will have relevant work experience in private sector housing, building surveying or environmental health and knowledge of legislation relating to Private Sector Housing. You must also have relevant qualifications in environmental health, building surveying or equivalent. Ideally you will be certified in the HHSRS but this is not essential as training will be given.
For an informal discussion about this post, please contact Tanya Wenham Housing Improvement Manager on 01843 577006 or Richard Hopkins Senior Housing Improvement Officer on 01843 577402.

The closing date for these positions is: Friday 5 March 2010
Interviews will be held: 16,17 and 18 March 2010

All posts include generous annual leave, flexible working (some posts excluded), a 37-hour week, subsidised bus pass, as well as access to the local government final salary pension scheme.

For an application form and job description for this position, please contact the Human Resources Department on (01843) 577175 (24 hours), e-mail jobs.hrpartnership@dover.gov.uk or, download an application form from www.thanet.gov.uk/jobs. Applications to be returned to: East Kent H R Partnership, Dover District Council, White Cliffs Business Park, Whitfield. Dover CT16 3PJ

Thanet District Council is an equal opportunities employer committed to employing people with disabilities. Any disabled applicant who meets the minimum criteria for the posts will be guaranteed an interview.



WALMER SCIENCE COLLEGE

Salisbury Road, Walmer, Deal, Kent, CT14 7QJ
Telephone : 01304 375212 Fax : 01304 380766
e-mail : admin@walmersciencecollege.co.uk
Headteacher : Simon Heaton BSc (Hons). NPQH
MIXED 11-18 HIGH SCHOOL 800 ON ROLL

REQUIRED FOR SEPTEMBER 2010

TEACHER OF ENGINEERING (MPS)

The successful applicant will be a well-qualified specialist, able to teach Engineering throughout the ability range, including BTec First Diploma, Level 2 and the Engineering Diploma Line at Levels 1 and 2. A new Engineering Suite has recently been opened within our Technology department. A comprehensive induction programme will be offered.

The successful applicant will:-
- be a creative practitioner with the ability to motivate students of all abilities;
- be enthusiastic and energetic;
- have a commitment to raising standards;
- have a commitment to providing a first class learning experience for all our students.

Walmer Science College is a good school with outstanding features (Ofsted 2007).

Walmer Science College is committed to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children and the successful applicant will be required to apply for an Enhanced Disclosure via the CRB. For an application form and further details, please contact Mrs Windsor at the school.

Closing date : 9:30am, Friday, 5th March 2010

We value diversity in our workforce

Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School

Maidstone Road Rochester Kent ME1 3EL
Tel: 01634 844008 Email: harrisonj@sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk

A Voluntary Controlled School with specialisms in Mathematics, Computing and Humanities
An 11-18 Boys' Grammar School of 1180 students including
320 in the co-educational Sixth Form
'OUTSTANDING' Ofsted November 2008 – "a buzz of excitement pervades the school"

ARE YOU A WELL QUALIFIED SCIENCE GRADUATE?
ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A CHANGE OF CAREER?
ARE YOU INTERESTED IN TEACHING?

We have a vacancy on the Graduate Teacher Programme (in conjunction with Canterbury Christ Church University) beginning in September 2010.

We can offer you an opportunity to work with bright, talented youngsters in a school where you will receive full support as you achieve Qualified Teacher Status.

For more information and an informal discussion please contact Mr Eliot Hodges (Acting Deputy Headteacher) at the school.

Closing date for applications - Friday, 5th March 2010.

To advertise in this section
01303 817040

WALMER SCIENCE COLLEGE

Salisbury Road, Walmer, Deal, Kent, CT14 7QJ
Telephone : 01304 375212 Fax : 01304 380766
e-mail : admin@walmersciencecollege.co.uk
Headteacher : Simon Heaton BSc (Hons). NPQH
MIXED 11-18 HIGH SCHOOL 800 ON ROLL

REQUIRED FOR SEPTEMBER 2010

TEACHER OF SCIENCE(MPS)

This could either be a full-time or part-time post.
A comprehensive induction programme will be offered.

The post would be suitable for either NQTs or more experienced teachers.
A comprehensive induction programme will be offered whatever your status.

The successful applicant will:-
- be a creative teacher with the ability to motivate students of all abilities;
- be enthusiastic and energetic;
- have a commitment to raising standards;
- have a commitment to providing a first class learning experience for all our students.

Walmer Science College is a good school with outstanding features (Ofsted 2007).

Walmer Science College is committed to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children and the successful applicant will be required to apply for an Enhanced Disclosure via the CRB. For an application form and further details, please contact Mrs Windsor at the school

Closing date : 9:30am, Friday, 5th March 2010

We value diversity in our workforce

The smart way to find your next job JobsforKent.co.uk

JobsforKent.co.uk

A selection of the 100s of Local Jobs online

Accountancy

Finance Coordinator

Canterbury

Salary: £25,000 - £30,000

Closing Date: 24th February 2010

Visit Kent is the official tourism delivery body for Kent. We are a public/private sector partnership supporting Kent's £2.5 bn visitor economy. We are expanding our team thanks to support from our stakeholders and successful applications for grant aid from the EU 2 Seas Interreg IV A Programme. We are seeking energetic and experienced individuals who first and foremost love Kent and are passionate about encouraging visitors to Kent. Finance Coordinator (French speaker preferred), Canterbury based but able to travel to Maidstone approximately twice a week and to France, The Netherlands and Belgium periodically for meetings. The focus of the role will be the preparation of monthly management accounts, budgeting and forecasting, cash flow, organising and supporting external audit of EU 2 Seas Interreg IVa projects, monitoring of project budgets and budget holders. Must have excellent systems skills (Excel & Sage) and be capable of robust and detailed analysis as well as the ability to liaise at senior levels. Experience in a financial environment and with European projects preferred. Relevant tertiary qualifications required although candidates actively studying will be considered. Salary £25,000 - £30,000 Visit www.visitkent.co.uk for more details of the positions and application details. For further information, please contact Sharon Dawson on 01227 862789 or sharon.dawson@visitkent.co.uk Closing date for applications: 24th February 2010

To apply/more information: Visit Kent

Quoting Job Ref: kos

Tel: 01227 862789

Email sharon.dawson@visitkent.co.uk

Experienced PAYE Administrator

Dartford

Salary: TBA

We are a local firm of accountants that have a vacancy for an Experienced PAYE Administrator You must have experience dealing with payrolls, ideally for a number of companies not just one in-house company, and you must have detailed knowledge on holiday entitlements, sick pay, redundancy and all the statutory aspects of payroll. A knowledge of the CIS systems, to cover CIS returns occasionally, is also needed. Please include the salary that you are looking for in your application. All applicants must be able to drive due to the location of our offices. Please send a CV to: Mr M Kayes Riddingtons Ltd The Lodge Darenth Hill Darenth Kent DA2 7QR or email: mike@riddingtons.co.uk

To apply/more information: Riddingtons & Riddingtons Ltd

Quoting Job Ref: kos

Email mike@riddingtons.co.uk

Administration, Secretarial, PA

Secretary

Tunbridge Wells

Salary: TBA

Closing Date: Friday 26th February 2010

Secretary- Part time 30 hours per week We are seeking to appoint a highly motivated and forward thinking individual to provide secretarial and administrative service in our busy friendly Residential Home for physically disabled adults. This is a challenging but very rewarding role. If you enjoy meeting people, possess excellent IT and communication skills, well organised and good office experience we would like to hear from you. For an application form and job description, please contact us on 01892 531138 during office hours, closing date Monday 8th February 2010

To apply/more information: Leonard Cheshire Disability

Quoting Job Ref: kos

Tel: 01892 531138

Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Assistant to the Parish Clerk

Folkestone

Salary: £16,054 - £18,453 pro rata

Closing Date: Friday 19 March 2010

To apply/more information: Hawkinge Parish Council

Quoting Job Ref: kos

Email Clerk@hawkingepc.org.uk

PA/EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Kent

Salary: £19,000 per year HIGH CALIBRE PA/EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT Required for the Director of the London Based Commercial Company Salary: £19,000 per year (OTE up to £37,000) Contract: Permanent Working from Home. Full Apple Mac book and iPhone to be provided. This is a highly prestigious role working for a very well respected businessman in London. Working as part of an incredibly slick and polished team. Based in London SW1, we are looking for an experienced and traditional PA/Executive Assistant to support our team. You will be looking after a huge client database, required to arrange meetings and plan presentations, also providing support to other sales consultants. Liaising with high profile clients within the UK and able to develop strong working relationships. You will have had previous experience where you have supported someone with very high expectations. The role involves upmost discretion as you are dealing with high-net worth clients on a day-to-day basis. You will have excellent attention to detail, a well-spoken telephone manner and have good administration and secretarial experience. Please send your CV to: admin@redstarfireandsecurity.com F.A.O Lee Reid

To apply/more information: Redstar Fire & Secutiry

Quoting Job Ref: kos

Email admin@redstarfireandsecurity.com

Child Care

Registered Manager

London

Salary: TBA

Closing Date: 1st March 2010

As a growing childcare organisation we are looking to recruit an experienced Registered Manager for our 6 bedded Children's Home in the South London area. You will need to be able to demonstrate your experience and passion in working with young people with emotional and behavioural difficulties. We are looking for an enthusiastic and motivated person with excellent organisational, interpersonal and multitasking skills who will lead and manage their team of support workers. The ideal candidate will hold a NVQ 3, NVQ 4 or Registered Manager Award, Children and Young People (or equivalent) or be working towards this qualification and also hold a full driving licence. This is a full time position and the successful applicant will be expected to work alongside a rota and cover on call responsibilities as required. The post is subject to an enhanced CRB Disclosure. We offer a competitive salary, excellent supervision and Training package allowing the opportunity for personal development. For further information and to download an Application Form please visit our website www.theboulters.com or contact Margaret on 01795 845810 Closing date for Application Forms 1st March 2010 Interviews for those shortlisted will commence 8th March 2010

To apply/more information: Boulters, The

Quoting Job Ref: kos

Tel: 01795 845810

Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Construction, Architecture, Surveyors

CARPENTER

Hythe

Salary: TBA

CARPENTER Qualified carpenter with sound working knowledge of their trade is required immediately. Applicants having own transport and CSCS card will have an advantage. Apply in writing enclosing CV and references Tel: 01303 268211 8 - 12 Stade Street, Hythe, Kent, CT21 6BB www.charliierconstruction.com

To apply/more information: Charlier Construction

Quoting Job Ref: kos

Tel: 01303 268211

Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Domestic

OFFICE CLEANERS - Stourmouth

Kent

Salary: £12pw

OFFICE CLEANERS NEEDED Stourmouth Fri 18:00 – 19:30 £12pw Barham Mon – Fri 08:00 – 09:00 £30pw Please call 01622 882492

To apply/more information: Minster Cleaning Services

Quoting Job Ref: kos

Tel: 01622 882492

Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

OFFICE CLEANERS

Kent

Salary: £30pw

OFFICE CLEANERS NEEDED Stourmouth Fri 18:00 – 19:30 £12pw Barham Mon – Fri 08:00 – 09:00 £30pw Please call 01622 882492

To apply/more information: Minster Cleaning Services

Quoting Job Ref: kos

Tel: 01622 882492

Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Education, Teacher, School

Graduate Teacher Programme - Mathematics and Science

Aylesford

Salary: Unqualified Scale

Closing Date: 4th March 2010

Aylesford School – Sports College is committed to providing high quality Initial Teacher Training. Through our dedicated support structures and innovative approaches to Learning and Teaching we provide a comprehensive programme to support colleagues who are keen to follow this challenging yet rewarding route into teaching. We are seeking to appoint suitable candidates to undertake teacher training via the Graduate Teacher Programme in both Maths and Science. The staff at the School are dedicated, innovative and progressive, together with being supportive of each other at all levels. The School is pro-active in encouraging personal development and career progression. Aylesford School – Sports College School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Therefore the post is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Check via the Criminal Records Bureau.

To apply/more information: Jill McKenna Aylesford School - Sports College

Quoting Job Ref: kos

Tel: 01622 717341

Email jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk

NVQ ASSESSOR

Gravesend

Salary: TBA

NVQ ASSESSOR DTUK is a young, progressive company looking for NVQ Assessors in Retail, Customer Service & Administration. Our Ofsted Grade 1 along with our embracement of E Learning, we believe, offers something unique to the right individual. Qualifications not necessary, just commitment to want to succeed. Excellent communication & IT skills essential. Own car is preferable. Salary will depend on experience. Please apply online at www.DTUK4LEARNERS.co.uk/JOBS

To apply/more information: Davidson Training UK Ltd

Quoting Job Ref: kos

Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Graduate Trainee in Citizenship

Canterbury

Salary: TBA

Closing Date: Friday 26th February 2010

Twin Specialisms: Business & Enterprise and Visual, Creative & Performing Arts Required for September 2010 Would you like to train to be a teacher in a supportive environment with excellent facilities and students who want to learn? If so, you may wish to join us, at Spires Academy, from September 2010, as a Graduate Trainee. We are looking to off er a Graduate Trainee place in the subject area of: Citizenship Spires Academy opened in September 2007 and achieved excellent results at KS4 in our fi rst year with GCSE results in English and Maths rising from 18% to 32%. Student numbers in Year 7 have doubled and admission applications continue to grow. There is a real sense of optimism in our community, a 'can do' mentality. Further details and an application form are available from Marion Wigington at m.wigington@spiresacademy.com or ring 01227 710392, for an information pack. Closing date: 12.00 noon, Friday 26th February 2010 Spires Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be subject to appropriate child protection screening including checks with previous employers and the Criminal Records Bureau.

To apply/more information: Spires Academy

Quoting Job Ref: kos

Tel: 01227 710392

Email m.wigington@spiresacademy.com

TEMPORARY TEACHER FOR PUPILS WITH LEARNING DIFFICULTIES

Medway

Salary: TBA

Closing Date: 5th March 2010

We are currently looking for... TEMPORARY TEACHER FOR PUPILS WITH SEVERE AND PROFOUND LEARNING DIFFICULTIES STARTING 19TH APRIL UNTIL 23RD JULY 2010 (FIXED TERM CONTRACT) MPS + 2 SEN Points The school is located in pleasant surroundings and we have educational resources of enviable proportions. This post would suit newly qualified teachers or those wishing to gain further experience of SEN. Comprehensive induction and training will be provided. Telephone enquiries and informal visits to the school welcomed. This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of appointment for post is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure. Due to the conditions and complex needs of the pupils at Abbey Court School, continuity and consistency of support is paramount and therefore candidates for all positions will need to commit to the full working hours of the post. Closing Date: 5th March 2010 For further details and a job description, please contact Linda Taylor, Business Manager, Abbey Court School, Rede Court Road, Strood, Rochester, Kent ME2 3SP (Tel: 01634 338236)

To apply/more information: Abbey Court School

Quoting Job Ref: kos

Tel: 01634 338236

Email tayll036@medway.org.uk

CLERICAL OFFICER

Medway

Salary: £15,039 - £19,126 (pro rata)

Closing Date: 5th March 2010

We are currently looking for a PART TIME CLERICAL OFFICER Medway Scale D2, points 12 – 21 £15,039 - £19,126 (pro rata) Abbey Court School caters for pupils aged 4-19 years with severe learning difficulties and is located on two sites at Strood and Rainham. The new appointment will be expected to work 20 hours per week (5 x 4 hour mornings), term time only to undertake reception/administrative duties at the school. We are looking for somebody with: • Good level of education, with GCSE's (or equivalent) in Maths and English • Experience of using Microsoft Office (particularly Word and Excel) • Excellent organisational skills and attention to detail • Knowledge of school office work desirable • Enthusiasm and a good sense of humour This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of appointment for post is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure. Due to the conditions and complex needs of the pupils at Abbey Court School, continuity and consistency of support is paramount and therefore candidates for all positions will need to commit to the full working hours of the post. Closing Date: 5th March 2010 For further details and a job description, please contact Linda Taylor, Abbey Court School, Rede Court Road, Strood, Rochester, Kent, ME2 3SP. (Tel: 01634 338236), stating the position for which you are applying. Please note CV's will not be accepted.

To apply/more information: Abbey Court School

Quoting Job Ref: kos

Tel: 01634 338236

Email tayll036@medway.org.uk

Science Graduate Teacher

Rochester

Salary: TBA

Closing Date: Friday, 5th March 2010

A Voluntary Controlled School with specialisms in Mathematics, Computing and Humanities An 11-18 Boys' Grammar School of 1180 students including 320 in the co-educational Sixth Form 'OUTSTANDING' Ofsted November 2008 – "a buzz of excitement pervades the school" ARE YOU A WELL QUALIFIED SCIENCE GRADUATE? ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A CHANGE OF CAREER? ARE YOU INTERESTED IN TEACHING? We have a vacancy on the Graduate Teacher Programme (in

Spires ACADEMY

Bredlands Lane, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent CT2 0HD
T: 01227 710392 | W: www.spiresacademy.com
NOR: 412
Principal: Ian Johnson

Twin Specialisms: Business & Enterprise and Visual, Creative & Performing Arts

Required for September 2010

Would you like to train to be a teacher in a supportive environment with excellent facilities and students who want to learn? If so, you may wish to join us, at Spires Academy, from September 2010, as a Graduate Trainee. We are looking to offer a Graduate Trainee place in the subject area of:

Citizenship

Spires Academy opened in September 2007 and achieved excellent results at KS4 in our first year with GCSE results in English and Maths rising from 18% to 32%. Student numbers in Year 7 have doubled and admission applications continue to grow.

There is a real sense of optimism in our community, a 'can do' mentality.

Further details and an application form are available from Marion Wigington at m.wigington@spiresacademy.com or ring 01227 710392, for an information pack.

Closing date: 12.00 noon, Friday 26th February 2010

Spires Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be subject to appropriate child protection screening including checks with previous employers and the Criminal Records Bureau.

Medway COUNCIL

Serving You

Consultant for Minority Ethnic Achievement (Traveller Education) Ref: CA0973C

Salary: Soulbury points 10-12 £42,227 – £44,454 per annum Hours: 37 per week Location: Children and Adults – learning and caring directorate, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham

We are looking for a consultant with substantial and proven successful teaching and management experience in school for 19 April 2010 or as soon as possible thereafter, to be responsible for Minority Ethnic Achievement, and in particular for Traveller Education. The postholder will:

- provide training and school based consultancy to Medway primary and secondary schools to raise standards of teaching and learning and attainment for vulnerable pupils with a focus on minority ethnic pupils and in particular Gypsy, Roma and Traveller (GRT) pupils.
- assist in monitoring, evaluating and reporting on the progress and impact of provisions for vulnerable pupils in particular, GRT pupils in Medway schools.
- contribute to the raising of standards and improving inclusion of vulnerable pupils in Medway schools through training, challenge and support, and advice as required.

The postholder will be part of the Minority Ethnic Achievement Team and work alongside colleagues in the School Improvement Team. We welcome applications from the Traveller Community.

Any offer of appointment will be subject to a satisfactory enhanced criminal records bureau disclosure.

For an informal discussion phone Amy Thompson on 01634 338543

Closing date for application: Monday, 1 March.

Short listing date: Friday, 5 March. Interviews: Friday, 12 March.

For an application pack or to apply visit www.medway.gov.uk or phone 01634 333333 Mon to Fri 8am – 8pm, Sat 9am – 1pm or **01634 332843** 24-hour answerphone. **Alternatively email jobs@medway.gov.uk** quoting the reference.

Valuing people's differences, recognising their strengths.

Beacon Council 2005-2006 Supporting New Businesses

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

POSITIVE ABOUT DISABLED PEOPLE

Abbey Court School

"WE GROW PEOPLE"

Abbey Court School, a 'special' school and a 'special' place to work.

We are currently looking for a

PART TIME CLERICAL OFFICER

Medway Scale D2, points 12 – 21

£15,039 - £19,126 (pro rata)

Abbey Court School caters for pupils aged 4-19 years with severe learning difficulties and is located on two sites at Strood and Rainham. The new appointment will be expected to work 20 hours per week (5 x 4 hour mornings), term time only to undertake reception/administrative duties at the school.

We are looking for somebody with:

- Good level of education, with GCSE's (or equivalent) in Maths and English
- Experience of using Microsoft Office (particularly Word and Excel)
- Excellent organisational skills and attention to detail
- Knowledge of school office work desirable
- Enthusiasm and a good sense of humour

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of appointment for post is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

Due to the conditions and complex needs of the pupils at Abbey Court School, continuity and consistency of support is paramount and therefore candidates for all positions will need to commit to the full working hours of the post.

Closing Date: 5th March 2010

For further details and a job description, please contact Linda Taylor, Abbey Court School, Rede Court Road, Strood, Rochester, Kent, ME2 3SP. (Tel: 01634 338236), stating the position for which you are applying.

Please note CV's will not be accepted.

Jobs by Email
Be the first to receive the latest Kent Jobs

JobsforKent.co.uk

conjunction with Canterbury Christ Church University) beginning in September 2010. We can offer you an opportunity to work with bright, talented youngsters in a school where you will receive full support as you achieve Qualified Teacher Status. For more information and an informal discussion please contact Mr Eliot Hodges (Acting Deputy Headteacher) at the school. Closing date for applications - Friday, 5th March 2010. Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School Maidstone Road Rochester Kent ME1 3EL Tel: 01634 844008 Email: harrisonj@sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk
To apply/more information:
Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 844008
Email harrisonj@sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk

TEACHER OF ENGINEERING (MPS)

Thanet
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: Friday, 5th March 2010
REQUIRED FOR SEPTEMBER 2010 TEACHER OF ENGINEERING (MPS) The successful applicant will be well-qualified specialist, able to teach Engineering throughout the ability range, including BTec First Diploma, Level 2 and the Engineering Diploma Line at Levels 1 and 2. A new Engineering Suite has recently been opened within our Technology department. A comprehensive induction programme will be offered. The successful applicant will:- • be a creative practitioner with the ability to motivate students of all abilities; • be enthusiastic and energetic; • have a commitment to raising standards; • have a commitment to providing a first class learning experience for all our students. Walmer Science College is a good school with outstanding features (Ofsted 2007). Walmer Science College is committed to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children and the successful applicant will be required to apply for an Enhanced Disclosure via the CRB. For an application form and further details, please contact Mrs Windsor at the school Closing date : 9:30am, Friday, 5th March 2010 WALMER SCIENCE COLLEGE Salisbury Road,Walmer, Deal, Kent, CT14 7QJ Telephone : 01304 375212 Fax : 01304 380766 e-mail : admin@walmersciencecollege.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Walmer Science College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01304 375212
Email admin@walmersciencecollege.co.uk

TEACHER OF SCIENCE(MPS)

Thanet
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: Friday, 5th March 2010
REQUIRED FOR SEPTEMBER 2010 TEACHER OF SCIENCE(MPS) This could either be a full-time or part-time A comprehensive induction programme will be offered. The post would be suitable for either NQTs or more experienced teachers. A comprehensive induction programme will be offered whatever your status. The successful applicant will:- • be a creative teacher with the ability to motivate students of all abilities; • be enthusiastic and energetic; • have a commitment to raising standards; • have a commitment to providing a first class learning experience for all our students. Walmer Science College is a good school with outstanding features (Ofsted 2007). Walmer Science College is committed to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children and the successful applicant will be required to apply for an Enhanced Disclosure via the CRB. For an application form and further details, please contact Mrs Windsor at the school Closing date : 9:30am, Friday, 5th March 2010 WALMER SCIENCE COLLEGE Salisbury Road,Walmer, Deal, Kent, CT14 7QJ Telephone : 01304 375212 Fax : 01304 380766 e-mail : admin@walmersciencecollege.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Walmer Science College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01304 375212
Email admin@walmersciencecollege.co.uk

Engineering, Manufacturing, Utilities

TECHNICAL MANAGER

Sevenoaks
Salary: TBA
TECHNICAL MANAGER REQUIRED To control the Manufacturing/Servicing Dept of a Laboratory Equipment Company Experience of the following Is required: Production, General development Of products, Refrigeration systems Good electrical/Mechanical Knowledge Salary commensurate with Experience To apply please telephone 01732 743901
To apply/more information:
LMS Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 743901
Email sales@lms.ltd.uk

ELECTRICAL ENGINEER

Ashford
Salary: TBA
Sauflon Pharmaceuticals Limited is an expanding independent manufacturing company producing contact lenses and solutions for markets around the world. We currently have the following vacancy:- ELECTRICAL ENGINEER As part of the maintenance team you will help maintain and repair plant equipment throughout the Ashford sites. Working to a high standard and compliant with legislation you will need to be able to work as part of a team, or alone. You will have served a recognised electrical apprenticeship and possess the 17th edition certification. Experience working in a manufacturing environment as a qualified maintenance electrician is required and mechanical experience will be an advantage. A full driving license is essential. For an application form, please telephone 01233 646599 or alternatively send a detailed CV, quoting your current salary to:- HR Department – Recruitment, Sauflon Pharmaceuticals Limited, Unit 8, Mace Industrial Estate, Ashford, Kent - TN24 8EP alternatively email: SimonilK@sauflon.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Sauflon Pharmaceuticals Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01233 646599
Email SimonilK@sauflon.co.uk

MAINTENANCE ENGINEER

Ashford
Salary: TBA
Sauflon Pharmaceuticals Limited is an expanding independent manufacturing company producing contact lenses and solutions for markets around the world. We currently have the following vacancy:- MAINTENANCE ENGINEER This role encompasses preventative and routine maintenance of production equipment, buildings and the installation of new equipment in a manufacturing environment. The successful candidate should possess at least 5 years of previous engineering experience in this environment. Turning/welding skills would be an advantage. A full driving license is essential. Hours of work for the above 2 positions will be Flexible 6:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. or 2:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. Monday to Friday. For an application form, please telephone 01233 646599 or alternatively send a detailed CV, quoting your current salary to:- HR Department – Recruitment, Sauflon Pharmaceuticals Limited, Unit 8, Mace Industrial Estate, Ashford, Kent - TN24 8EP alternatively email: SimonilK@sauflon.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Sauflon Pharmaceuticals Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01233 646599
Email SimonilK@sauflon.co.uk

Electrically Biased Site Supervisor

Kent
Salary: TBA
Electrically Biased Site Supervisor required by a Nationally based Specialist Company working within the Medical Pre-Installation field. Negotiated Package. Computer experience essential. Must be willing to work away from home. E-mailed C.V. applications only to smiller@avenuebuilding.co.uk NO AGENCIES NO TELEPHONE CALLS
To apply/more information:
Avenue Building Company Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email smiller@avenuebuilding.co.uk

Estate Agency, Property

JUNIOR SALES NEGOTIATOR

Tunbridge Wells
Salary: TBA
JUNIOR SALES NEGOTIATOR We are seeking an enthusiastic, well organised individual to join our busy Tunbridge Wells branch. Good telephone manner, basic salary + commission Please email your CV to twells@winkworth.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Winkworth
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email twells@winkworth.co.uk

Mortgage Consultants

Ashford
Salary: TBA
We are currently seeking to recruit dynamic, professional, high calibre sales people in the Kent and South East London area, who will enjoy working within the UK's largest and most successful estate agency and financial services organisation, with first class training and support, an excellent basic salary and commission plus a company car. You need to have a full driving licence, be of smart appearance with a strong desire to succeed. Applications from Trainee or experienced advisers would be welcome. Send your CV and covering letter to carole.mcclelland@kent.cwea.co.uk Countrywide Mortgage Services 78 High Street Eltham London SE9 1BX
To apply/more information:
Mann & Co
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email carole.mcclelland@kent.cwea.co.uk

Experienced and Trainee Estate Agents

Kent
Salary: TBA
Experienced and Trainee Estate Agents Due to a huge increase in business in 2009 we are now looking to expand our sales team in Kent. If you are a high calibre individual with a 'cando' attitude, good communication skills and of smart appearance and have sales experience then contact us to find out more about our structured career path, extensive training and our exciting working environment. Please email your CV to: sarah.mcglinchey@bairstowevescountrywide.co.uk Bairstow Eves Countrywide is an equal opportunities employer
To apply/more information:
Mann & Co
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email sarah.mcglinchey@bairstowevescountrywide.co.uk

HR, Recruitment

HR Assistant

Tonbridge
Salary: TBA
HR Assistant (Maternity Cover) – (Pembury) Full or part-time maternity cover required. It will be necessary to have a flexible approach to work and a willingness to assist in all areas within the HR Department. Good interpersonal skills and an excellent attention to detail and accuracy is required. Previous HR experience is preferable but not essential but previous administrative experience is essential. For the HR position all applications must include a covering letter explaining reasons for application and salary expectation. Application Forms for all positions above can be obtained from the HR Dept on 01892 822168 or reception@pepenbury.info or download from www.pepenbury.info All positions are subject to enhanced clearance from the CRB, POVA and POCA Registers. No agency referrals.
To apply/more information:
Pepenbury
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01892 822168
Email reception@pepenbury.info

Industrial, Warehouse, Factory

PRODUCTION SCHEDULER

Ashford
Salary: TBA
Sauflon Pharmaceuticals Limited is an expanding independent manufacturing company producing contact lenses and solutions for markets around the world. We currently have the following vacancy:- PRODUCTION SCHEDULER The role will involve creating and maintaining weekly production schedules for contact lenses aftercare solutions based on the ERP suggestions, making the most effective use of resources, whilst meeting agreed customer service and stock levels. You will liase daily with the production, sales departments and other members of the planning team. The ideal candidate will have 3 years experience in a similar role, have good excel skills and experience of working with ERP systems. You must be a good team player, have good communication skills and be able to work on your own initiative. The position is based at the production site in Ashford in Kent. Hours of work will be 8:30 am – 5:00 pm Monday – Friday. We offer a competitive salary, holiday entitlement and productivity bonus scheme. For an application form, please telephone 01233 646599 or alternatively send a detailed CV, quoting your current salary to:- HR Department – Recruitment, Sauflon Pharmaceuticals Limited, Unit 8, Mace Industrial Estate, Ashford, Kent - TN24 8EP alternatively email: SimonilK@sauflon.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Sauflon Pharmaceuticals Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01233 646599
Email SimonilK@sauflon.co.uk

Legal

Legal Secretary

Margate
Salary: TBA
Margate based criminal lawyers seek a legal secretary for a full time position. Good audio typing, spelling and telephone manner required. Please send CV FAO Miss S Sutherland, Goldspring Jones Solicitors Limited, 170 Northdown Road, Cliftonville, Kent, CT9 2QT No agencies please
To apply/more information:
Goldspring Jones Solicitors Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email applications @jobsforkent.co.uk

Management, Senior Positions

General Manager

Sittingbourne
Salary: £28,000 pro rata The Beat Project 6 Month Contract 22.5 hours per week
To apply/more information:
Smart Film & Media Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email info@thebeatproject.org.uk

Consultant for Minority Ethnic Achievement

Chatham
Salary: £42,227 – £44,454 per annum
Closing Date: Monday, 1 March 2010
To apply/more information:
Medway Council
Quoting Job Ref: CA0973C
Tel: 01634 332843
Email jobs@medway.gov.uk

BAR and RESTARANT MANAGER

Maidstone
Salary: TBA
Young, enthusiastic and dynamic BAR & RESTARANT MANAGER required for busy bar/restaurant/club in Maidstone. Adaptability and enthusiasm is a must. Please email your CV and photograph to helen@lashings.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Lashings Restuarant
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email helen@lashings.co.uk

Marketing, Advertising

SENIOR MARKETING EXECUTIVE

Folkestone
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 26 February 2010
To apply/more information:
Saga
Quoting Job Ref: SS364/KOS
Email human.resources @saga.co.uk

Nursing, Medicine, Care Work

Night Time Care Assistants

Maidstone
Salary: £6 per hr
Charing Healthcare are looking to recruit Night Time Care Assistants for Residential Care Home in the Maidstone area. Must be flexible with shift patterns. Starting at £6 per hr according to experience. Post is subject to a CRB disclosure. For further details and further discussion please call Carol on 01622 737847
To apply/more information:
Charing Healthcare
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 737847
Email carol@charinghealthcare.co.uk

Ambulance crews

Kent
Salary: £7.00ph
East Kent & South London Emergency Medical Technician East Kent & South London £7.00ph Starting Pay. Full Time: 4 day - 12hr rota Immediate Start Kent based Ambulance crews required. Applicants should have current EMT/CMT/FPOS/ECA/AP or Equivalent. HSE FAW First Aiders also required. Full UK driving licence essential. Enhanced CRB checks carried out. Email CV to jobs@lifeskillsmedical.com Quote Ref: LS/KENT/0210 or visit: www.lifeskillsmedical.com (see news section).
To apply/more information:
Lifeskills Holding Lts
Quoting Job Ref: LS/KENT/0210
Email jobs@lifeskillsmedical.com

Marketing, Sales and Communication

Canterbury
Salary: 12,500-26,500 depending on skils
Closing Date: 28 February 2010 MOTIVATED & READY We are looking for someone who has an ability to communicate confidently with members of the public with a level of service that exceeds expectation. This role is office based within the health and wellness sector and also includes community based events for promotions. Only apply if you are interested in personal growth, development and a career. Whilst the role has a base salary depending on your demonstrative skills, there is huge potential for bonuses for any applicant. That is why you have to be the kind of person who enjoys having goals and helping people get well and stay well. If you love success, you are eager to help people and want to make a difference, please apply immediately.
To apply/more information:
Dr. Tracy Harley Wellness Practice
Quoting Job Ref: 2010-02
Tel: 01227 789977
Email drtracyharley @googlemail.com

Psychological Wellbeing Practitioner

Sittingbourne
Salary: £20,710 - £26,839
Closing Date: 26 February 2010
To apply/more information:
KCA (UK)
Quoting Job Ref: 616
Tel: 01795 590635
Email applications @jobsforkent.co.uk

Cognitive Behavioural Therapist,

Ramsgate
Salary: £29,789 - £39,273
Closing Date: 26th February 2010
To apply/more information:
KCA (UK)
Quoting Job Ref: 622
Tel: 01795 590635
Email applications @jobsforkent.co.uk

Community Support Workers

Maidstone
Salary: Hourly rate from £7.20 - £7.70
Community Support Workers – MOST (Paddock Wood) We are looking for committed, enthusiastic support workers for our rapidly growing domicilary service. Full current driving licence and access to a vehicle for work purposes is essential. A mileage allowance is payable. Hourly rate from £7.20 - £7.70 dependent on experience and qualifications (includes 50p per hour enhancement). For detailed information concerning this position please contact Katherine Osborne on 01892 839990 Application Forms for all positions above can be obtained from the HR Dept on 01892 822168 or reception@pepenbury.info or download from www.pepenbury.info All positions are subject to enhanced clearance from the CRB, POVA and POCA Registers. No agency referrals.
To apply/more information:
Pepenbury
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01892 839990
Email reception@pepenbury.info

Support Workers

Edenbridge
Salary: £37.64 per night
Support Workers (Edenbridge) Falconers Court at Edenbridge has full and part-time vacancies for Support Workers. Hourly rate from £7.034 dependent on qualifications. Enhancements for working weekends and public holidays. Sleep-in allowance of £37.64 per night. For detailed information please contact Steve Shepherd on 07947 794307 Application Forms for all positions above can be obtained from the HR Dept on 01892 822168 or reception@pepenbury.info or download from www.pepenbury.info All positions are subject to enhanced clearance from the CRB, POVA and POCA Registers. No agency referrals.
To apply/more information:
Pepenbury
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 07947 794307
Email reception@pepenbury.info

HOME CARE WORKERS

Romney Marsh
Salary: TBA
ROMNEY MARSH CARERS HOME CARE WORKERS We are currently recruiting for Home Care Workers who are compassionate, understanding, reliable, enthusiastic and committed to providing good quality support to individuals in their own home. The role involves supporting people to live as independently as possible such as washing, dressing/undressing toileting/incontinence care, meal preparation, housework and some assistance with taking their medication. We offer full training, flexible hours and good job satisfaction. We will require proof of right to work in the UK, 2 full references, health questionnaire, CRB disclosure (£36) met by applicant. Please call Claire Churchman on 01932 223050 or email recruitment@enara.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Enara Group
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01932 223050
Email recruitment@enara.co.uk

HOME CARE WORKERS

Folkestone
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
Enara Group
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01932 223050
Email recruitment@enara.co.uk

Senior Night Carer and Day Carer

Broadstairs
Salary: TBA
Port Regis Residential Care For the elderly Broadstairs Requires Senior Night Carer NVQ 2 essential Day Carer For more information Please call 01843 602266
To apply/more information:
Port Regis Residential Home
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 602266
Email applications@ jobsforkent.co.uk

DENTAL NURSE

Sandwich
Salary: TBA
DENTAL NURSE REQUIRED FOR PRESTON HOUSE DENTAL IN SANDWICH . FULL/PART TIME E MAIL: enquiries@prestonhouse.co.uk Tel: 01304 621 621 or 612075
To apply/more information:
Preston House Dental Practice
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01304 621621
Email enquiries@ prestonhouse.co.uk

Adult Carer Support Officer

Sheerness
Salary: 18, 453 p.a.
Closing Date: 24th February 2010
Swale Carers Centre, covering the Swale and Canterbury Districts of Kent, aims to reduce the stress and stigma caused as a result of the caring role, and in the case of Young Carers, to restore lost childhood. We support: Adults caring for another Adult; Young Carers aged 5 –18 years (Swale only) caring for any family member; Parent Carers of a child with a disability or special needs; Alzheimer and Dementia Family Support. In order to deliver our new 'Caring Families' programme we now wish to recruit : Adult Carer Support Officer - Full Time NJC 20 £18, 453 p.a. + allowances (initially 1 year) Young Carer Support Officer—Part time (8hrs +) NJC 20 £18,453 pro rata + allowances As part of the Swale Carers Centre Staff Team you will be working with Carers to assess their needs and to provide support, advice, advocacy and respite opportunities for them. You will have experience of working with vulnerable children and adults and an understanding of the complex needs and issues facing people with caring responsibilities. You will need excellent communication skills at all levels. You must be able to engage in flexible working hours including occasional weekend working. Appointments are subject to the Swale Carers Centre receiving an enhanced disclosure from the ISA/CRB which is considered acceptable. Swale Carers Centre is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. For further information and an application pack please contact: Sandie Hornby—Chief Operations Officer: Swale Carers Centre, Suite 9, Bank House, Broadway, Sheerness, Kent ME12 1TW or telephone 01795 583440 or visit www.swalecarers.org.uk Closing Date for Receipt of Applications: 24th February 2010 Interview Date: 1st March 2010. To be held in Sheerness Swale Carers Centre is a member the Princess Royal Trust for Carers Network and offers good working conditions, a comprehensive training programme, essential car users & mileage allowance and pension contribution.
To apply/more information:
Swale Carers Centre
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 583440
Email applications@ jobsforkent.co.uk

RESIDENTIAL SUPPORT WORKERS

Whitstable
Salary: £11,620 - £19,500 PA RESIDENTIAL SUPPORT WORKERS HERNE BAY AND WHITSABLE AREAS SALARY RANGE £11,620 - £19,500 PA PLUS INCREMENTS. WE REQUIRE RESIDENTIAL SUPPORT WORKERS - ALL LEVELS UP TO AND INCLUDING DEPUTY MANAGERS - TO WORK IN OUR HOMES. QUALIFICATIONS NVQ 3 OR EQUIVALENT PREFERRED. HOWEVER TRAINING WILL BE PROVIDED FOR APPLICANTS WITH EVIDENT POTENTIAL AND/OR RELEVANT EXPERIENCE. CONTACT OUR OFFICE MANAGER JANN ASLETT ON 01732 740088 EMAIL: headoffice@benecareltd.co.uk www.benecareltd.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Bene Care
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 740088
Email headoffice@ benecareltd.co.uk

EXPERIENCED DISPENSER

Canterbury
Salary: TBA
EXPERIENCED DISPENSER Required for busy GP surgery in Littlebourne (must have NVQ II in pharmaceutical services or equivalent qualification) Hours negotiable. Please phone 01227 721561 for informal chat and/or job description. Excellent terms

Young Carer Support Officer

Sheerness
Salary: £18,453 pro rata
Closing Date: 24th February 2010
Swale Carers Centre, covering the Swale and Canterbury Districts of Kent, aims to reduce the stress and stigma caused as a result of the caring role, and in the case of Young Carers, to restore lost childhood. We support: Adults caring for another Adult; Young Carers aged 5 –18 years (Swale only) caring for any family member; Parent Carers of a child with a disability or special needs; Alzheimer and Dementia Family Support. In order to deliver our new 'Caring Families' programme we now wish to recruit : Adult Carer Support Officer - Full Time NJC 20 £18, 453 p.a. + allowances (initially 1 year) Young Carer Support Officer—Part time (8hrs +) NJC 20 £18,453 pro rata + allowances As part of the Swale Carers Centre Staff Team you will be working with Carers to assess their needs and to provide support, advice, advocacy and respite opportunities for them. You will have experience of working with vulnerable children and adults and an understanding of the complex needs and issues facing people with caring responsibilities. You will need excellent communication skills at all levels. You must be able to engage in flexible working hours including occasional weekend working. Appointments are subject to the Swale Carers Centre receiving an enhanced disclosure from the ISA/CRB which is considered acceptable. Swale Carers Centre is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. For further information and an application pack please contact: Sandie Hornby—Chief Operations Officer: Swale Carers Centre, Suite 9, Bank House, Broadway, Sheerness, Kent ME12 1TW or telephone 01795 583440 or visit www.swalecarers.org.uk Closing Date for Receipt of Applications: 24th February 2010 Interview Date: 1st March 2010. To be held in Sheerness Swale Carers Centre is a member the Princess Royal Trust for Carers Network and offers good working conditions, a comprehensive training programme, essential car users & mileage allowance and pension contribution.
To apply/more information:
Swale Carers Centre
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 583440
Email applications@ jobsforkent.co.uk

Is your CV up to date?
take advantage of a free online CV review

JobsforKent.co.uk

and conditions. Friendly working environment. Applications in writing to Practice Manager, Bridge Health Centre, Patrixbourne Road, Bridge, Canterbury CT4 5BL.
To apply/more information: Bridge Health Centre
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 721561
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Young Person's Drug and Alcohol Treatment Worker

Canterbury
Salary: £21,519 - £27,849 PRO RATA
Closing Date: Monday 8 March 2010.
Young Person's Drug and Alcohol Treatment Worker £21,519 - £27,849 PRO RATA • MATERNITY COVER (MIN 6 MONTHS) 30 HOURS PER WEEK • ESSENTIAL CAR USER ALLOWANCE OF UP TO £1,170 PER ANNUM PRO RATA • BASED CANTERBURY / THANET KCA (UK) is an expanding and vibrant organisation providing a wide range of high quality and innovative specialist services in the drug, alcohol and mental health sectors. This post will involve one to one work with young drug and alcohol users (aged 10 - 18) experiencing complex difficulties. These may include concerns around mental health, safeguarding, homelessness, offending, and chaotic substance misuse issues. Covering Canterbury and Thanet, we are looking for someone with good substance misuse knowledge, excellent communication and casework skills and proven experience of working effectively with young drug and alcohol users. Application forms and job descriptions can be downloaded from www.kca.org.uk or call 01795 590635. Please quote reference 639. Closing date: Monday 8 March 2010. KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse. Charity no: 292824.
To apply/more information: KCA (UK)
Quoting Job Ref: 639
Tel: 01795 590635
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Public Sector, Social Services

Schools Project Co-ordinator

Chatham
Salary: £19,779.00p.a
Closing Date: 8th March 2010
Nacro is the principal crime reduction charity in England and Wales. It works to reduce crime by delivering a range of socially inclusive crime prevention initiatives by working for a fair and effective criminal justice system and by resettling offenders. Nacro Operations in Kent offer vocational and skills training to young people aged 14 -19 years and adult learners and those who wish to improve their literacy and numeracy. Our aim is to motivate, raise self-esteem and increase self confidence through effective training and skills development to progress our learners into education, training or employment. As our provision extends we are looking for lively, self motivated individuals who enjoy the challenge of working with people of all ages but, in particular, young people. We have the following vacancy at our Chatham New Bridge House Centre: Schools Project Co-ordinator (Maternity cover) £19,779.00p.a Our 14-16 year old programmes include Key stage 4 Engagement Programme (60/40) and Alternative Curriculum programmes for individual schools. Our programme objectives are to develop and encourage vocational and employability skills which enable young people to re-engage and make positive life choices. We are looking to engage a highly motivated, organised individual who has empathy with this client group. The post holder will be required to co-ordinate the activities and take responsibility for the Nacro 14-16 year old Alternative Curriculum programmes across Kent and Medway. This post will suit someone who has a background in education and who is keen to ensure that all young people receive the education appropriate to their needs. This position is subject to an enhanced CRB check Contact colin.farrow@nacro.org.uk or call Colin Farrow on 01634 818301 for an application pack. Closing date for vacancy is 8th March 2010.
To apply/more information: Nacro Services Kent
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 818301
Email colin.farrow@nacro.org.uk

Housing Improvement Officer

Thanet
Salary: £26,940 – £30,738 per annum
Closing Date: Friday 5 March 2010 Thanet is a great place to live and work. Our historic seaside towns of Ramsgate, Margate and Broadstairs are rich in heritage and opportunity. From the multi-million pound Turner Contemporary Gallery, the new fast speed rail link to London, and the popular Westwood Cross shopping centre - this is an exciting time to join Thanet District Council. We are determined to improve the quality of life for local people. We believe that by listening to local people, working in active partnership and by being prepared to do things in an innovative way we can accelerate improvement and best meet the challenges ahead. Housing Improvement Officer (two vacancies) Salary £26,940 – £30,738 per annum The aim of the team is to improve the condition of housing in Thanet, so that people can live in safe and secure housing free from risks that might impair their health or well being. We have 2 Housing Improvement Officer posts available. The main duties of these posts will be to meet the statutory duties of the Council with regard to Private Sector Housing, by enforcing national and local standards in housing and to implement a range of private sector housing initiatives, which provide solutions to local housing problems through education, persuasion and the provision of incentives. One of the posts will focus on enforcement activity, whilst the other post will focus upon pro-active projects and policy work. Please ensure that you indicate which type of post you would prefer when applying. You will be enthusiastic, hardworking, and be a team player. You will have relevant work experience in private sector housing, building surveying or environmental health and knowledge of legislation relating to Private Sector Housing. You must also have relevant qualifications in environmental health, building surveying or equivalent. Ideally you will be certified in the HHSRS but this is not essential as training will be given. For an informal discussion about this post, please contact Tanya Wenham Housing Improvement Manager on 01843 577006 or Richard Hopkins Senior Housing Improvement Officer on 01843 577402. The closing date for these positions is: Friday 5 March 2010 Interviews will be held: 16,17 and 18 March 2010 All posts include generous annual leave, flexible working (some posts excluded), a 37-hour week, subsidised bus pass, as well as access to the local government final salary pension scheme. For an application form and job description for this position, please contact the Human Resources Department on (01843) 577175 (24 hours), e-mail jobs.hrpartnership@dover.gov.uk or, download an application form from www.thanet.gov.uk/jobs. Applications to be returned to: East Kent H R Partnership, Dover District Council, White Cliffs Business Park, Whitfield. Dover CT16 3PJ Thanet District Council is an equal opportunities employer committed to employing people with disabilities. Any disabled applicant who meets the minimum criteria for the posts will be guaranteed an interview.
To apply/more information: Thanet District Council
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: (01843) 577175
Email jobs.hrpartnership@dover.gov.uk

Retail, Wholesale, Sales

Sales People

Kent
Salary: TBA
Black Tie Foods Ltd
Sales People required No experience necessary. Full training and vehicle provided. Call 01732 760484
To apply/more information: Black Tie Foods Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 760484
Email blacktie@btconnect.com

Telesales Operators

Kent
Salary: TBA
Earn hundreds of pounds per week in your spare time. City Local are looking for Telesales Operators Please contact John Davidson on 07717 803161 or johnnyd@citylocal.co.uk
To apply/more information: City Local
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 07717 803161
Email johnnyd@citylocal.co.uk

PUBLIC NOTICES

M20 JUNCTION 9 IMPROVEMENTS

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
NOTICE OF DETERMINATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 105 B (1) OF THE HIGHWAYS ACT 1980 (AS AMENDED)

The Secretary of State for the Department for Transport gives notice that he has determined that the proposal to widen M20 Junction 9 (Ashford) exit slips at TR005440 which is a relevant project within the meaning of Section 105A (1) of the Highways Act 1980 (as amended) is not to be made subject to Environmental Impact Assessment in accordance with Part VA of the Highways Act 1980 (as amended) and EC Directive 85/337/EEC (as amended).

Any comments about this notice should be sent to the Highways Agency at the address given below. Any comments should be made as soon as possible and received by the Highways Agency by close of play on 5 April 2010.

Further information on the project and about this notice may be obtained from Barry Stiff on 01622 666207, barry.stiff@jacobs.com or at the following address: Jacobs Engineering UK Ltd, Miller House, Lower Stone Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6GB.

Dr John Burns,
Route Performance Manager (Kent)
Highways Agency, Federated House,
London Road, Dorking , Surrey RH4 1SZ

Kent Highway Services

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACTS – NOTICES OF APPLICATIONS

The following applications have been submitted to the Council and are being advertised for the reason(s) given in each case.

TM/10/00045/LB – Tithe Barn Bradbourne House New Road East Malling West Malling Kent ME19 6DZ – Miss Emma Croucher is applying for Listed Building Application: Installation of a demountable glass partition to form a meeting room under the mezzanine floor. Reason: LB CA

TM/10/00141/FL – Lodge Cottage 16 St Leonards Street West Malling Kent ME19 6PD – Beechcroft Developments are applying for removal of some of the existing boundary conifers to erect a framed willow hurdle fence. Reason: CA LB HH

TM/10/00201/FL – Sports Ground Holborough Road Snodland Kent – Mr R Pettitt is applying for resubmission of details for a two storey front extension to pavilion. Reason: CA

TM/10/00153/FL – Daltons Farm The Street Plaxtol Sevenoaks Kent TN15 0QG – Mr Barden is applying for new side and rear single storey extensions. Reason: CA HH

TM/10/00186/FL – Compass Cottage Malthouse Road Stansted Sevenoaks Kent TN15 7PJ – Mr Richard Hogbin is applying for single storey side extension. Reason: CA HH

(A) TM/10/00233/FL & (B) TM/10/00234/FL – Sandyridge Pine Tree Lane Ivy Hatch Sevenoaks Kent TN15 0NJ – Mr C Neville are applying for (A) first floor extension to provide bed, ensuite and dressing room, re-locate front door and provide porch and internal alterations & (B) demolition of barn, shed and log store, construction of new detached garage with studio over. Reason: HA HH

TM/10/00053/FL – Platt Hill Wood Fairseat Lane Wrotham Sevenoaks TN15 7QB – Mr Mike Fitzgerald is applying for demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings and replacement with a new dwelling and swimming pool with underground changing area. Reason: DEPART HA

TM/10/00034/FL – 2 Oldbury Close Ightham Sevenoaks Kent TN15 9DJ – Mr Temple And Mrs Hudson are applying for single storey rear extension. Reason: CA HH

Reasons for the case being publicised:

LB	Application relates to/affects a Listed Building or its setting
CA	Application is within/affects a Conservation Area
DEPART	Application does not accord with the Development Plan
HA	Site is over 1ha.
HH	Householder application - As this is a householder application, in the event of an appeal against a refusal of planning permission, which is to be dealt with on the basis of representations in writing, any representations made about this application will be sent to the Secretary of State, and there will be no further opportunity to comment at appeal stage.

These applications are displayed on our website www.tmbc.gov.uk – click on the button "Online Planning" (then View Existing Applications and select Public Access). You can submit your comments by emailing to planning.applications@tmbc.gov.uk (please quote the application number by the date set out below). Please note that we will publish a copy of any representations received on the Council's website, including your name and address.

Copies of applications listed may be seen during office hours (8.30 am and 5.00 pm Monday to Friday). Any applications within Hadlow, Hildenborough and Tonbridge are available at Tonbridge Castle, Tonbridge. Other applications are available at the office of the Director of Planning, Transport & Leisure, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4LZ. Any representations should be made in writing quoting the application number by 14 March 2010.

David Hughes
Chief Executive

21 February 2010

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

10/00308/FUL **Two Ponds Walkhurst Road, Benenden**
- Replacement dwelling (LB)

10/00325/LBC **Garden Cottage Benenden Girls School, Benenden**
- Listed Building Consent - Internal alterations (LB)

10/00321/HOUSE **Lees Court The Green, Brenchley**
- Demolition of conservatory and single-storey side addition; Construction of single-storey side and rear extension with associated internal alterations (CA) (LB)

10/00327/LBC **Lees Court The Green, Brenchley**
- Listed Building Consent - Demolition of conservatory and single-storey side addition; Construction of single-storey side and rear extension with associated internal alterations (LB)

10/00386/HOUSE **Crockhurst Oast Crockhurst Street, Capel**
- Replacement of unsuitable cladding and windows, extending the property to the east, along with the addition of a bay to the west (LB)

10/00065/FUL **Raffles Of Cranbrook Ltd. St Davids Bridge, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**
- Re-positioning of air conditioning units (CA) (LB)

10/00250/LBC **Cornhall House High Street, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**
- Listed building consent - Variation of Condition 3 of 09/03086/LBC - length by which the flue protrudes above the roof to be 800mm not 500mm (LB)

10/00313/FUL **The Malt House Dorothy Avenue, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**
- Change of use of former Class B1 furniture factory, ancillary showrooms and B1 offices on ground floor to a church and ancillary meeting space (Class D1) (LB)

10/00431/FUL **Raffles St Davids Bridge, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**
- Installation of folding doors to rear elevation. Provision of glazed canopy to rear (LB) (CA)

10/00055/HOUSE **Barnfield Farmhouse High Street, Hawkhurst**
- Single storey detached garage and alteration of drive to provide access (LB) (CA)

10/00395/FUL **Holmans Slip Mill Lane, Hawkhurst**
- Change of use of land from pasture to outdoor riding arena (LB)

10/00421/FUL **Part OS Plot 7513 Water Lane, Hawkhurst**
- Construction of manege (LB)

10/00272/HOUSE **18 Calverley Park Royal Tunbridge Wells, Park**
- Side extension to existing single-storey service wing; Extension of existing garage to re-instate previous size (CA) (LB)

10/00273/LBC **18 Calverley Park Royal Tunbridge Wells, Park**
- Listed Building Consent - Side extension to existing single-storey service wing; Extension of existing garage to re-instate previous size; Changes to fenestration; Repairs to external stonework; External changes to include improvement to balustrading; Re-surfacing of driveway and parking area; Internal alterations and re-ordering of room layouts (LB)

10/00385/OUT **Milford Lodge Camden Park, Park**
- Renewal of Outline (Means of access not reserved) - New detached dwelling in lower part of garden with double garage (TW/06/02300/OUT refers) (CA)

10/00390/LBC **The Granary Downingbury Farm, Pembury**
- Listed Building Consent: Installation of rooflight on side elevation (LB)

10/00251/HOUSE **Summerhill Camden Hill, Sissinghurst C/O Cranbrook Parish**
- Erection of oak framed double garage (LB)

10/00257/LBC **The Victorian Barn Sissinghurst Castle, Sissinghurst C/O Cranbrook Parish**
- Listed Building Consent - Change of use from a store to additional seating area for the adjacent coffee shop/cafe including alterations (work commenced) (LB)

10/00380/LBC **Hawkridge Barn The Common, Sissinghurst C/O Cranbrook Parish**
- Listed building consent - minor variations to work carried out under TW/08/00170 (LB)

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

Jim Kehoe
Head of Planning Services
Town Hall Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS

Dated: 23 January 2010

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004
APPROVED PREMISES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: **The Leather Bottle, 54-56 The Street, Cobham**
Applicant: **Bryan Treleaven**

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Giles Adey
Head of Registration
Regulatory Services
First Floor, Invicta House,
Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX

Kent County Council

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004
APPROVED PREMISES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

Applications have been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as venues for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: **The Spa Hotel, Mount Ephraim, Tunbridge Wells**
Applicant: **Graham Rothwell**
Name of Premises: **Hever Castle Golf Club, Hever**
Applicant: **Jon Wittenberg**

The applications and plans of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Giles Adey
Head of Registration
First Floor, Invicta House
Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX

Kent County Council

HIGHWAYS - District of Ashford

VARIOUS ROADS, ASHFORD
PROHIBITION OF DRIVING TEMPORARY ORDER 2010
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because carriageway surfacing works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on various roads, Ashford, as described in the schedule to this order on or after 22 February 2010 for an estimated period of as described in the schedule to this order or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be as shown below.

Road Name:	**U11217 Greenhill Lane, Egerton**
Extent:	Entire Length
Dates:	22 – 23 February 2010 for two days
Diversion:	Munday Bois Road, The Pinnock
Road Name:	**C152 Romden Road, Smarden**
Extent:	Entire Length
Dates:	23 February 2010 for one day only
Diversion:	For HGV – C146 Pinnock Road/ Smarden Woods Road, C91 Burnthouse Lane, C44 Bethersden Road. For light vehicles – C493 Pluckley Road/ The Street, Smarden, C44 Bethersden Road.
Road Name:	**Pilgrims Lane, Chilham**
Extent:	between junction Shalmsford Road and A28 Canterbury Road
Dates:	24 – 25 February 2010 for two days
Diversion:	C117 Shalmsford Road, A28 Canterbury Road, U12016 Bowerland Lane
Road Name:	**U11256 Cot Lane, Biddenden**
Extent:	Entire Length
Dates:	25 February and 01 March 2010 for three days, excluding the weekend
Diversion:	Riverhall Lane, C158 Whitfield Road, A262 Biddenden Road, A274 Headcorn Lane.
Road Name:	**U11286 Harbourne Lane, St Michaels**
Extent:	between Church Hill and Swain Road
Dates:	26 February and 04 March 2010 for six days, excluding Sunday
Diversion:	C159 Swain Road, A28 Ashford Road, C160 Church Hill
Road Name:	**Bank Road, Aldington**
Extent:	between Broad Oak crossroads and Firth Road
Dates:	04 – 05 March 2010 for two days
Diversion:	Coopers Lane, Chequer Tree Farm Road, Frith Road
Road Name:	**Bank Road, Aldington**
Extent:	between Firth Road and Calleywell Lane
Dates:	04 - 05 March 2010 for two days
Diversion:	Bank Road, Flood Street, A20 Ashford Road, Station Road, Goldwell Lane, Calleywell Lane.
Road Name:	**Roman Road, Aldington**
Extent:	between Calleywell Lane and Forge Hill
Dates:	04 - 05 March 2010 for two days
Diversion:	Calleywell Lane, Goldwell Lane
Road Name:	**C561 Faversham Road, Charing**
Extent:	between junction with A252 Canterbury Road and A251 Faversham Road
Dates:	23 - 27 March 2010 for five days including the Saturday
Diversion:	A251 Faversham Road, A252 Canterbury Road
Road Name:	**A251 Faversham Road, Ashford**
Extent:	Vicarage Road junction
Dates:	26 February – 01 March 2010 excluding the weekend for nights
Diversion:	A28 Canterbury Road, Simone Weil Avenue, A20 Fougeres Way, Trinity Road

This order will come into force on Monday 22 February 2010, will be in operation when the appropriate signs are erected and will remain valid for a period of eighteen months. The order will allow the above mentioned restrictions to be implemented as and when required for works of similar nature at any time for the duration of the order.

HIGHWAYS - District of Ashford

HINXHILL ROAD, HINXHILL
PROHIBITION OF DRIVING TEMPORARY ORDER 2010
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of tree cutting and aerial replacement works, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Hinxhill Road, Hinxhill on 26 February 2010 for an estimated period of 7 working days or until the works are complete.

The road will be closed between the junction with The Street and Court Lodge Farm. The alternative route for through traffic will be via The Street, A20 Hythe Road, Bockham Lane, Plumpton and Hinxhill Road.

The works will be carried out each weekday between the hours of 9.30 am and 3.30 pm, with the road re-opened outside these hours

HIGHWAYS District of Canterbury

COULTER ROAD, HERNE BAY
PROHIBITION OF DRIVING TEMPORARY ORDER 2010
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Coulter Road, Herne Bay, on or after 10 March 2010 for an estimated period of 4 days or until the works are complete.

The road will be closed for its entire length but access for residents will be maintained from Blackburn Road. The alternative route for through traffic will be via Cornwall Road and Blackburn Road.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Dartford

LITTLEBROOK MANOR WAY, DARTFORD
TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Littlebrook Manor Way, Dartford between its junctions with Farnol Road to Attlee Drive.

The Order will become effective on 8th March 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 1 day. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Henderson Drive and Farnol Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate resurfacing works.

For further information please contact Kent Highway Services on 08458 247 800.

HIGHWAYS - District of Dover

STATION ROAD, MARTIN MILL
PROHIBITION OF DRIVING TEMPORARY ORDER 2010
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of BT cabling works, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Station Road, Martin Mill (Langdon), on or after 8 March 2010 for an estimated period of 1 day or until the works are complete. It is planned the works will be carried out between the hours of 9.30 am and 3.30 pm.

The road will be closed outside 'Windy Cottage'. There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions of A258 Deal Road and Lucerne Lane. The alternative route will be via A258 Deal Road, Solton Lane, White Hill, The Street, East Langdon Road and Station Road.

MOAT LANE & COOMBE LANE, ASH
PROHIBITION OF DRIVING TEMPORARY ORDER 2010
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of works to renew frames and covers in the carriageway, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Moat Lane & Coombe Lane, Ash, on or after 8 March 2010. This is for an estimated period of up to 7 working days or until the works are complete.

The roads will be closed at various points as required for the works, as signposted on site. Every effort will be made to maintain access for residents when safe to do so. Access from Langdon Avenue into Coombe Lane may also be restricted, as shown on site. The alternative route for through traffic will be via The Street, New Street and Marshborough Road.

MIDDLE STREET, DEAL
PROHIBITION OF DRIVING TEMPORARY ORDER 2010
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of the replacement of electrical cables, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Middle Street, Deal, on or after 8 March 2010, for an estimated period of 2 days or until the works are complete.

The road will be closed at its junction with Broad Street. There is no alternative route for through traffic. There will be a suspension of the One-way Traffic Order between the junctions of South Street and Broad Street to allow access.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Gravesham

VARIOUS RAODS, GRAVESEND
TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on various roads, Dartford as noted in schedule 1.

The Order will become effective on 8th March 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last as noted in the schedule. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: as noted in schedule 1.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate resurfacing works.

Schedule 1

Road Name:	**Wellington Street, Gravesend**
Extent:	Between its junction with Parrock Road and Saddington Street
Date:	8th March 2010 for 3 days
Diversion:	Parrock Street, Edwin Street and Saddington Street.
Road Name:	**Peacock Street, Gravesend**
Extent:	Between its junction with Waterloo Street and Saddington Street
Date:	10th March for 3 days
Diversion:	Saddington Street, The Grove and Parrock Street.

For further information please contact Kent Highway Services on 08458 247 800.

CROSS LANE EAST, GRAVESEND
PROHIBITION OF ENTRY ORDER 2010

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL have made the above named Order under Section 9 and 10 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Paragraph 20 of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The Order was required in connection with proposals that the prohibition of entry into Cross

Lane East from Echo Square – introduced an experimental Order to alleviate the environmental impact of traffic using alternative routes.

This Order shall take effect from 22 February 2010.

NB An experimental traffic Order was made 26 August 2008, which continued the prohibition of entry into Cross Lane East. This was a successful experiment but requests were received from local cyclists to be exempt from the prohibition. The Kent County Council have considered that the provisions of the Order should continue in force indefinitely with the added exemption of cyclists.

Full details are contained in the Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended and a statement of the Council's reasons for making the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at the offices of Gravesham Borough Council, Civic Centre, Windmill Street, Gravesend during normal office hours.

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or any of the provisions contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers of the relevant enabling Act or that any requirement of any such enabling Act or of any regulations made thereunder have not been complied with may within 6 weeks from the date on which the Order was made make application to the High Court for this purpose.

HIGHWAYS - District of Sevenoaks

STONE CROSS ROAD, CROCKENHILL
TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Stone Cross Road, Crockenhill from Tilecroft to Hollymount.

The Order will become effective on 22nd February 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 4 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: Green Court Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate BT works.

WESTHAM ROAD A25, CHEVENING
TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Westerham Road A25, Chevening.

The Order will become effective on 25th February 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 1 night (22:00 – 05:00) ; the works are planned to commence 25th February 2010 and last 1 night (22:00 – 05:00). These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: South bound on the slip A21 Sevenoaks bypass taken next off slip A225 Riverhill around Morleys rounderbout straight back on to the 21 North Bound Sevenoaks ByPass exiting at first exit for westrham .

The purpose of the closure is to Resurface Carriageway.

COWDEN STATION ROAD, COWDEN
TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Cowden Station Road, Cowden at the Rail Bridge.

The Order will become effective on 8th March 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence on 14th March 2010 and last 6 hours between 00.00 – 06.00. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Cowden Station Road, Hartfield Road, Buckhurst Lane and Cow Lane.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate works to Network Rail Bridge.

For further information please contact Kent Highway Services on 08458 247 800.

VARIOUS ROADS, WESTERHAM, BRASTED AND SEAL
50 MPH, 40 MPH AND RESTRICTED ROADS, SPEED LIMIT (AMENDMENT NO1) ORDER 2010

Notice is hereby given that the KENT COUNTY COUNCIL proposes to make the above named Orders under section 82(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, (hereinafter called "the Act") and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with paragraph 20 of Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act,

The effect of the proposed Order will extend the length of the 30 mph speed limit on A25 on the following length in Greatness:

A25 HIGH STREET, SEAL

from the existing northern termination point (270 metres west of the centre of the junction with School Lane) to a point 281 metres west of the junction with Seal Hollow Road.

NB This will have the affect of increasing the length of 30 mph speed limit to a point 193 metres west of the junction with Seal Hollow Lane.

Full details are contained in the draft Order which together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of the Council's reasons for proposing to make the Order, may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at the Council Offices, Argyle Road, Sevenoaks, between 9.00am and 5.00pm.

If you wish to offer support for or object to the proposed Order you should send the grounds in writing to the Transportation & Development Manager (Sevenoaks), Kent Highway Services, Doubleday House, St Michael's Close, Aylesford, Kent, ME20 7EZ by noon on Monday 15 March 2010.

HIGHWAYS - District of Shepway

NEW LANE, LYDD
PROHIBITION OF DRIVING TEMPORARY ORDER 2010
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of the installation of a new electrical supply, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on New Lane, Lydd on or after 22 February 2010 for an estimated period of 7 days or until the works are complete.

The road will be closed outside 'Holcom House'.
The alternative route for through traffic will be via High Street, Cannon Street and Park Street.

BRACK LANE, BROOKLAND
PROHIBITION OF DRIVING TEMPORARY ORDER 2010
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of carriageway subsidence, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Brack Lane, Brookland from 22 February 2010 for an estimated period of up to 4 months. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The road is closed between the junctions with Snargate Lane and Grove Lane. The alternative route for through traffic is via Snargate Lane, A2080 Rhee Wall Road, King Street, Harvey Road, Beckett Road and Brack Lane.

HIGHWAYS - District of Swale

THROWLEY ROAD, THROWLEY
PROHIBITION OF DRIVING TEMPORARY ORDER 2010
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of cable replacement works, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Throwley Road, Throwley on or after 22 February 2010 for an estimated period of 3 weeks or until the works are complete.

The road will be closed to through traffic between the junctions of Leaveland Belles Forstal and Housefield Road. The alternative route will be via Leaveland Belles Forstal, A251 Ashford Road, Broomfield Lane and Housefield Road.

PRIMROSE LANE, BREDGAR
10 MPH SPEED LIMIT TEMPORARY ORDER 2010
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of the likelihood of danger to the public and workforce whilst repairs and improvements are carried out to the Primrose Lane bridge over the M2, the Kent County Council has made an Order on Primrose Lane, Bredgar.

The effect of the Order is to impose a temporary mandatory 10 mph speed restriction within the roadworks. This will only be implemented at such times when it is not safe to work without this restriction, and will be operated by means of a "convoy", whilst the roadworks are taking place.

The order will become effective on or after 22 February 2010 for an estimated period of 6 weeks or until the works are complete.

The order will only be in force at the specific times when the works are being carried out. At these times, the appropriate signs and temporary traffic signals will be displayed on site. The working hours for this site are between 8.00 am and 5.00 pm.

BEECHES ROAD, SELLING
PROHIBITION OF DRIVING TEMPORARY ORDER 2010
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that to enable the installation of new cabling, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Beeches Road, Selling, on or after 8 March 2010, for an estimated period of 7 working days or until the works are complete.

The road will be closed for its entire length.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Perry Wood and Black Oast.

HIGHWAYS - District of Thanet

MANSTON ROAD, THANET WAY, MINSTER
PROHIBITION OF DRIVING TEMPORARY ORDER 2010
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because Carriageway Surfacing works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Manston Road, Thanet Way, Minster from as described below on or after 22 February 2010 for an estimated period of seven nights or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via as described shown below.

Phase 1

Road Name:	**B2190, Minster**
Extent:	from the junction with the B2048 Minster Road to the junction with Alland Grange Lane
Dates:	22 February 2010 to 1 March 2010 as and when signing is in place.
Diversion:	B2190 Minster Road, A253 Thanet Way, A253 Canterbury Road West, A256 Haine Road, B2050 Manston Road, B2190. In both directions.

Phase 2

Road Name:	**B2190 Minster Road**
Extent:	from the junction with the A253 to the junction with the B2048 Minster Road
Dates:	22 February 2010 to 1 March 2010 as and when signing is in place.
Diversion:	Southbound: B2190, B2050 Manston Road, then for Canterbury/London turn left and follow A256 and A253. For Minster, turn right and follow A256 and A253.
Road Name:	**A253 Canterbury Road West**
Extent:	from A299 Monkton roundabout to Laundry Road
Dates:	22 February 2010 to 1 March 2010 as and when signing is in place.
Diversion:	A299 'Mad Mile' and follow A28, A254 (Between Tivoli Road and College Road junctions) High sided vehicles to follow local diversion to avoid low bridge) A256. In both directions.
Road Name:	**Tothill Street**
Extent:	from Hill House Drive to A253 Canterbury Road West
Dates:	22 February 2010 to 1 March 2010 as and when signing is in place.
Diversion:	Eastbound traffic: Tothill Street, Foxborough Lane, The Lanes, Way Hill then follow main diversion. Westbound traffic: Tothill Street, Monkton Road, Monkton Street and Willets Hill then follow main diversion.

For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent Highway Services

VICTORIA ROAD, BROADSTAIRS
PROHIBITION OF DRIVING TEMPORARY ORDER 2010
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of severe carriageway subsidence, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Victoria Road, Broadstairs, from house number 46 into the cul-de-sac, on or after 8 March 2010 for an indefinate period.

The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

There is no suitable alternative route.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tonbridge & Malling

MILLS ROAD, AYLESFORD
PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC AND NO RIGHT TURN TEMPORARY ORDER 2010
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic travelling in a southbound direction from Hall Road into Mills Road and prohibiting eastbound traffic from turning right into Mills Road from A20 London Road on or after Monday 8th March 2010 between 19:00hrs and 06:00hrs for a period of up to 3 weeks or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the restrictions described above is via A20 London Road, Coldharbour Roundabout, return via A20 London Road westbound to use slip road to access Mills Road.

Southern Gas Networks apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary for gas mains replacement. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is John Adsley on 07774 983419.

For further information or comment please call Kent Highway Services on 08458 247 800.

HIGHWAYS - Boroughs of Tunbridge Wells and Tonbridge & Malling

VARIOUS ROADS IN THE BOROUGHS OF TUNBRIDGE WELLS AND TONBRIDGE & MALLING
PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC TEMPORARY ORDER 2010
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on the routes described in the Schedule.

The alternative routes as described will be noted in the schedule. Access will be maintained up to the points of closure. The Order will become effective on Saturday 13th March 2010, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

Schedule

Road Name: **A264 Mount Ephraim, Tunbridge Wells**
Extent: From Mount Ephraim Road to Grosvenor Road
Dates: Start: 13th March 2010 End: 14th March 2010
Diversion: A264 Mount Ephraim, A264 Church Road, Mount Pleasant Road, Grosvenor Road

Road Name: **A26 St John's Road, Tunbridge Wells**
Extent: From Grosvenor Road to Culverden Park.
Dates: Start: 20th March 2010 End: 21st March 2010
Diversion: Grosvenor Road, Upper Grosvenor Road, North Farm Road, Highfield Road, High Brooms Road, Yew Tree Road, A26 London Road, A26 St John's Road

Road Name: **Sherenden Road, Capel, Tunbridge Wells**
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 7th May 2010 End: 7th May 2010
Diversion: Hartlake Road and B2017 Five Oak Green Road

Road Name: **Vauxhall Lane, Southborough, Tunbridge Wells**
Extent: A26 London Road to Honnington Farm
Dates: Start: 7th May 2010 End: 7th May 2010
Diversion: Vauxhall Lane, A2014 Pembury Road, A26 Quarry Hill Road, A26 London Road

Road Name: **Woodbury Park Road, Tunbridge Wells**
Extent: Dunstan Road to A26 St John's Road
Dates: Start: 10th June 2010 End: 10th June 2010
Diversion: Phase 1 - Dunstan Road to Chilston Road via Chilston Road, Queens Road, Dunstan Road. Phase 2 - Chilston Road to A26 St John's Road via St John's Road, Queens Road, Dunstan Road, Woodbury Park Road

Road Name: **Alliance Way, Paddock Wood, Tunbridge Wells**
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 11th June 2010 End: 11th June 2010
Diversion: N/A Cul-de-sac

Road Name: **Challenger Close, Paddock Wood, Tunbridge Wells**
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 14th June 2010 End: 14th June 2010
Diversion: N/A Cul-de-sac

Road Name: **Keyworth Close, Paddock Wood, Tunbridge Wells**
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 14th June 2010 End: 14th June 2010
Diversion: N/A Cul-de-sac

Road Name: **Northdown Close, Paddock Wood, Tunbridge Wells**
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 14th June 2010 End: 14th June 2010
Diversion: N/A Cul-de-sac

Road Name: **Tutsham Way, Paddock Wood, Tunbridge Wells**
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 15th June 2010 End: 15th June 2010
Diversion: Ringden Avenue, B2160 Maidstone Road, Mount Pleasant, Cogate Road

Road Name: **Bullion Close, Paddock Wood, Tunbridge Wells**
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 16th June 2010 End: 16th June 2010
Diversion: N/A Cul-de-sac

Road Name: **Mercers Close, Paddock Wood, Tunbridge Wells**
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 16th June 2010 End: 16th June 2010
Diversion: N/A Cul-de-sac

Road Name: **Goldings, Paddock Wood, Tunbridge Wells**
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 17th June 2010 End: 17th June 2010
Diversion: N/A Cul-de-sac

Road Name: **Woodlands, Paddock Wood, Tunbridge Wells**
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 17th June 2010 End: 17th June 2010
Diversion: N/A Cul-de-sac

Road Name: **Hendley Terrace, Cranbrook, Tunbridge Wells**
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 17th June 2010 End: 17th June 2010
Diversion: N/A Cul-de-sac

Road Name: **Hendley Drive, Cranbrook, Tunbridge Wells**
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 18th June 2010 End: 18th June 2010
Diversion: N/A Cul-de-sac

Road Name: **Rope Walk, Cranbrook, Tunbridge Wells**
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 18th June 2010 End: 18th June 2010
Diversion: N/A Cul-de-sac

Road Name: **Benenden Road, Benenden, Tunbridge Wells**
Extent: Walkhurst Road to Beacon Hall Farm
Dates: Start: 19th June 2010 End: 20th June 2010
Diversion: B2086 Benenden Road, A28 Hastings Road, A268 Link Hill, Queen Street, Megrims Hill, Rye Road, A229 Cranbrook Road, Hawkhurst Road, Hartley Road, B2086 Swattenden Lane, Benenden Road, Mounts Hill, The Street, Benenden Road

Road Name: **Woodlands Road, Ditton, Tonbridge & Malling**
Extent: New Road to Woodlands Parade
Dates: Start: 3rd May 2010 End:7th May 2010 Start:10th May End:10th May
Diversion: New Road, A20, Woodlands Road

Road Name: **Pratling Street, Aylesford, Tonbridge & Malling**
Extent: Rochester Road to No 326 Pratling Street
Dates: Start: 4th May 2010 End: 4th May 2010
Diversion: Rochester Road, Pratling Street

Road Name: **Cuckoo Lane, Tonbridge, Tonbridge & Malling**
Extent: A26 Hadlow Road to Higham Lane
Dates: Start: 7th May 2010 End: 7th May 2010
Diversion: Northbound - A26 Hadlow Road, A26 Tonbridge Road, Ashes Lane, Higham Lane. Southbound - Higham Lane, Barchester Way, Cranford Road, Hadlow Road East, A26 Hadlow Road

Road Name: **Lower Haysden Lane, Tonbridge, Tonbridge & Malling**
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 8th May 2010 End: 8th May 2010
Diversion: Upper Haysden Lane

Road Name: **Primrose Drive, Ditton, Tonbridge & Malling**
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 9th May 2010 End: 10th May 2010
Diversion: N/A

Road Name: **Golding Close, Ditton, Tonbridge & Malling**
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 10th May 2010 End: 11th May 2010
Diversion: N/A Cul-de-sac

Road Name: **Medina Road, Ditton, Tonbridge & Malling**
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 11th May 2010 End: 12th May 2010
Diversion: New Road, Woodlands Road, Linkway

Road Name: **Linkway, Ditton, Tonbridge & Malling**
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 11th May 2010 End: 12th May 2010
Diversion: Medina, New Road, Woodlands Road

Road Name: **Wilton Drive, Ditton, Tonbridge & Malling**
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 12th May 2010 End: 13th May 2010
Diversion: N/A

Road Name: **St Peters Road, Ditton, Tonbridge & Malling**
Extent: St Peters Close to New Road
Dates: Start: 12th May 2010 End: 13th May 2010
Diversion: Bradbourne Lane, A20, New Road

Road Name: **St Peters Close, Ditton, Tonbridge & Malling**
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 13th May 2010 End: 14th May 2010
Diversion: N/A Cul-de-sac

Road Name: **Ditton Court, Ditton, Tonbridge & Malling**
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 13th May 2010 End: 14th May 2010
Diversion: N/A Cul-de-sac

Road Name: **Thackeray Road, Larkfield, Tonbridge & Malling**
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 14th May 2010 End: 15th May 2010
Diversion: N/A Cul-de-sac

Road Name: **Wrotham Hill Road, Stansted, Tonbridge & Malling**
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 18th May 2010 End: 18th May 2010
Diversion: Tumblefield Road, Plaxdale Green Road, Stansted Hill, Vigo Hill, Platt House Lane, Fairseat Lane

Road Name: **South Ash Lane, Stansted, Tonbridge & Malling**
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 19th May 2010 End: 20th May 2010
Diversion: A20 London Road, A227 Gravesend Road, A227 Wrotham Road, A227 South Street, A227 Wrotham Road, B260 Longfield Road, B260 Main Road, Hartley Road, Ash Road, Chapel Wood Road, Ash Road, The Street

Road Name: **Bancroft Road, Wrotham, Tonbridge & Malling**
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 19th May 2010 End: 20th May 2010
Diversion: N/A Cul-de-sac

Road Name: **Goodworth Road, Wrotham, Tonbridge & Malling**
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 20th May 2010 End: 21st May 2010
Diversion: West Street

Road Name: **West Street, Wrotham, Tonbridge & Malling**
Extent: Whole Length
Dates: Start: 20th May 2010 End: 21st May 2010
Diversion: High street, Borough Green Road, Kemsing Road, Battlefields, Blacksole Road

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary for carriageway resurfacing works. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Tony Carreck for Tunbridge Wells and Robert Seggie for Tonbridge & Malling on 08458 247 800.

For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent Highway Services

TUNBRIDGE WELLS BOROUGH COUNCIL

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (GENERAL PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT) ORDER 1995

NOTICE OF THE MAKING OF A DIRECTION UNDER ARTICLE 4(1) TO WHICH ARTICLE 5(4) APPLIES

NOTICE is hereby given that Tunbridge Wells Borough Council ("the Authority") has made a Direction under Article 4(1) of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 to which Article 5(4) applies ("the Direction").

The Direction applies to development of the type specified in the First Schedule to this Notice within the area described in the Second Schedule to this Notice.

The effect of the Direction is that permission granted by article 3 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development Order) 1995 shall not apply to development of the type specified in the First Schedule to this Notice and that such development shall not be carried out within the area specified in the Second Schedule to this Notice unless planning permission is granted by the Authority on an application made to the Authority under Part III of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

A copy of the Direction as modified and of the map defining the area of land covered by it may be seen at the Council's Tunbridge Wells Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 2AB between the hours of 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday (except Thursday 9am to 6.30pm) or 10am and 4pm on Saturday.

The Direction made by the Authority on 25th November was approved subject to modifications by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government on 5th February 2010 and therefore remains in force in relation to the area specified in the Second Schedule to this Notice.

FIRST SCHEDULE

The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995

SCHEDULE 2 PART 2 - MINOR OPERATIONS

Class A

The erection, construction, maintenance, improvement or alteration of a gate, fence, wall or other means of enclosure, being development comprised within Class A of Part 2 of Schedule 2 to the said Order and not being development comprised within any other Class.

Class B

The formation, laying out and construction of a means of access to a highway which is not a trunk road or classified road, where that access is required in connection with development permitted by any class in this Schedule (other than by Class A of this Part).

SCHEDULE 2 PART 4 - TEMPORARY BUILDINGS AND USES

Class B

The use of the land for any purpose for not more than 28 days in total in any calendar year, of which not more than 14 days in total may be for the purposes referred to in paragraph B.2, and the provision on the land of any movable structure for the purpose of the permitted use.

SECOND SCHEDULE

Land at Longbrooks Farm, Pearsons Green Road, Paddock Wood, Kent having an area of some 27.315 hectares with a frontages of approximately 919.8 metres to Pearsons Green Road and approximately 531.8 metres to Knowle Road

Paul Cummins, Legal Services Manager,
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council,
Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 1RS.

Dated : 20th February 2010

TUNBRIDGE WELLS BOROUGH COUNCIL

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (GENERAL PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT) ORDER 1995

NOTICE OF THE MAKING OF A DIRECTION UNDER ARTICLE 4(1)

NOTICE is hereby given that Tunbridge Wells Borough Council ("the Authority") has made a Direction under Article 4(1) of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 ("the Direction").

The Direction applies to development of the type specified in the First Schedule to this Notice within the area described in the Second Schedule to this Notice.

The effect of the Direction is that permission granted by article 3 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development Order) 1995 shall not apply to development of the type specified in the First Schedule to this Notice and that such development shall not be carried out within the area specified in the Second Schedule to this Notice unless planning permission is granted by the Authority on an application made to the Authority under Part III of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

The Direction was made by the Authority on 25th November 2009 and modified and approved by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government on 5th February 2010. The Direction comes into force in relation to the area specified in the Second Schedule to this Notice on the date on which this Notice is first published.

A copy of the Direction and of the map defining the area of land covered by it may be seen at the Council's Tunbridge Wells Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 2AB between the hours of 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday (except Thursday 9am to 6.30pm) or 10am and 4pm on Saturday.

FIRST SCHEDULE

The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995

SCHEDULE 2 PART 5 – CARAVAN SITES

Class A

The use of the land, other than a building, as a caravan site in the circumstances referred to in paragraph A.2.

SCHEDULE 2 PART 6 – AGRICULTURAL BUILDINGS AND OPERATIONS

Class A – Development on units of 5 hectares or more

(a) Works for the erection, extension or alteration of a building; or
(b) any excavation or engineering operations
which are reasonably necessary for the purposes of agriculture within that unit.

Class B – Development on units of less than 5 hectares

(a) the extension or alteration of an agricultural building;
(b) the installation of additional or replacement plant or machinery;
(c) the provision, rearrangement or replacement of a sewer, main, pipe, cable or other apparatus;
(d) the provision, rearrangement or replacement of a private way;
(e) the provision of a hard surface;
(f) the deposit of waste;

where the development is reasonably necessary for the purposes of agriculture within the unit.

SCHEDULE 2 PART 7 – FORESTRY BUILDINGS AND OPERATIONS

Class A

The carrying out on land used for the purposes of forestry, including afforestation, of development reasonably necessary for those purposes consisting of :-
(a) works for the erection, extension or alteration of a building:
(b) the formation, alteration or maintenance of private ways;
(c) operations on that land, or on land held or occupied with that land, to obtain the materials required for the formation, alteration or maintenance of such ways;
(d) other operations (not including engineering or mining operations).

SECOND SCHEDULE

Land at Longbrooks Farm, Pearsons Green Road, Paddock Wood, Kent having an area of some 27.315 hectares with a frontages of approximately 919.8 metres to Pearsons Green Road and approximately 531.8 metres to Knowle Road

Paul Cummins, Legal Services Manager,
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council,
Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 1RS.

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Benchmark Beemer has more work to do

By **STEVE LOADER**

BMW's 5-Series saloon has long been the benchmark for the UK executive car market.

Now about to enter a sixth generation, its strengths have been driving appeal married to quality and style.

I think the once-classical style went walkabout with the outgoing fifth generation car but, as a recent Driving road test proved, the 5-Series was still the executive class car setting the pace.

The task is harder now though and the new car – the saloon is due in showrooms on March 20 priced from £28,165 – faces tough opposition from rear-driven rivals like the eye-catching Jaguar XF and much-improved Mercedes-Benz E-Class.

Nor can we discount Volvo's affordable front-driven S80 following some radical chassis work and Audi's A6 – available in front-wheel drive and the German marque's famous Quattro all-wheel drive system.

It is something of a relief for long-running BMW fans though to see a return to styling that is easier on the eye, though the newcomer still cannot really go head-to-head with the Jag XF in this department.



However, the all-round competence of the BMW, plus the company car tax advantages of the marque's excellent low-emission/fuel consumption EfficientDynamics package will be a powerful draw.

The original 'Five' saloon appeared in 1972, and every version since has been a pioneer of BMW's best engineering or technology – the company's first diesel engine appeared in a Five, while other generations pioneered such innovations as all aluminium suspension and 'head-up' instrument display.

The new car will be first in its sector to feature start-stop, starting and stopping the engine automatically at the traffic lights or in sluggish traffic flows.

It will also offer an eight-speed automatic transmission.

Early Five generations could be a handful in slippery conditions, but recent models have seen BMW perfect the long-wheelbase/short overhangs and 50:50 weight distribution that make the 5-Series such a driver pleaser.

The new car's wheelbase is longest in class, which also delivers extra space for rear passengers.

Buyers will be able to choose from three diesel and four petrol engines from launch, including a four-cylinder 184bhp 1,995cc 520d option, expected to follow the previous Five and become the best seller by far.

Also the entry model for the range, it will hit 62mph in 8.1 seconds and should average in the mid-50s for mpg while emitting just 132g/km of CO2 – the most efficient car in its sector.

Of course, while BMW's 'Ultimate Driving Machine' mantra stands as much for greener motoring nowadays as it does performance and sportiness, the marque has to keep diehards happy, so the range flagship is the twin-turbo 407hp 4,395cc V8 550i petrol version with a 0-62mph of five seconds, but an 'eco footprint' that will be hard to defend – an average of well under 30mpg and CO2 emissions of 243g/km.

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09 09 MAZDA 3 TAKARA 1-6 AUTO PAS ALLOYS 5DR SILVER 7000 MILES....£12495
09 09 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C ESTATE SILVER 2000 MILES....£9995
09 09 FORD C-MAX 2-0 ZETEC AUTO PAS 5DR AVALON BLUE 3000 MILES....£13995
09 09 FUSION 1-6 ZETEC PLUS AUTO PAS 5DR AVALON BLUE 2000 MILES....£10995
09 09 NEW FOCUS 1-6 ZETEC 5DRAUTO PAS AIR/C BLUE MET 3000 MILES....£12995
09 09 MERIVA 1-6 LIFE AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C STAR SILVER 200 MILES....£10995
09 09 NISSAN MICRA ACENTA 5 DR AUTO PAS DENIM BLUE 4000 MILES....£9995
09 09 CHEVROLET LACETTI EST 1-8 SX SW AUTO PAS 5 DR SILVER 3000M....£7995
09 09 MECEDES A160 ELEGANCE AUTO PAS MET GOLD 750 MILES....£15495
09 09 NEW CORSA 1-2 DESIGN AUTO PAS AIR/C 5DR GREEN 6000 MILES....£10995
09 58 NISSAN MICRA ACTIVE LUXURY 3 DR AUTO PAS SILVER 1700 MILES....£8995
08 58 NEW FOCUS 1-6 STYLE AUTO PAS AIR/C DEEP RED 3000 MILES....£11995
08 58 MAZDA 3 TAKARA 1-6 AUTO PAS ALLOYS 5DR RED MET 5000 MILES....£12495
08 58 MEGANE 1-6 EXPRESSION ESTATE AUTO PAS BLACK 600 MILES....£9995
08 58 GRAND SCENIC 2-0 S DYNAMIQUE 5DR AUTO PAS GREY 7000 MILES....£12995
08 58 CHEVROLET LACETTI EST 1-8 SX SW AUTO PAS 5 DR BLACK 4000M....£7495
08 58 FORD FUSION 1-4 STYLE CLIMATE SILVER METALLIC 5000 MILES....£9495
08 58 PEUGEOT 107 2-TRONIC 3DR AUTO PAS RED 1400 MILES....£7995
08 58 PEUGEOT 107 2-TRONIC 3DR AUTO PAS RED 2000 MILES....£7995
08 58 NEW CORSA 1-3 CLUB AUTO PAS AIR/C 5DR ICE BLUE 4000 MILES....£8995
08 58 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C ESTATE SILVER 7000 MILES....£8995
08 58 CHEVROLET AVEO LT AUTO PAS AIR/C TURQUOISE 1000 MILES....£7995
08 58 NISSAN NOTE ACENTA 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR SILVER 1800 MILES....£8995
08 58 NISSAN NOTE ACENTA 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR SILVER 3000 MILES....£8995
08 58 RENAULT CLIO 1-6 EXPRESSION 3DR AUTO PAS 750 MILES....£9495
08 58 TOYOTA YARIS T3 AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DR BLUE 6000 MILES....£9995
08 58 KANGOO AUTHENTIQUE 1-6 AUTO PAS AIR/C MET BLUE 8000 MILES....£9995

COUPES & CONVERTIBLES

09 09 FORD FOCUS CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO PAS ALLOYS RED 4000 MILES....£14995
08 58 PEUGEOT 207 SPORT CC 1-6 AUTO ALL BLACK LEATHER2000MILES....£15995
08 58 MICRA 1-6 CONVERTIBLE CC ACENTA AUTO PAS LATTE 4000 MILES....£11995
08 58 MICRA 1-6 CONVERTIBLE CC ACENTA AUTO PAS PACIFIC 2000 MILES....£10995
08 57 MEGANE PRIVILEGE 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS FLAME 6000 MILES....£13495
07 57 MICRA 1-6 CONVERTIBLE CC SPORT AUTO PAS INFERNO 7000 MILES....£10995
07 57 MICRA 1-6 CONVERTIBLE CC SPORT AUTO PAS BLUE MET 5000MILES....£10995
07 57 MEGANE PRIVILEGE 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS BLUE 5000 MILES....£13495
06 56 MICRA 1-6 SPORT CONVERT AUTO PAS ALLOYS BLUE 12000 MILES....£9995
06 56 MICRA 1-6 ESSENSA CONVERT AUTO PAS BLUE 18000 MILES....£9995
06 56 MEGANE PRIVILEGE 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS GREY 16000 MILES....£10995
06 56 MEGANE DYNAMIC 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS BLUE 19000 MILES....£10495
06 56 MEGANE DYNAMIC 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS SILVER 23000 MILES....£9995
06 56 MEGANE PRIVILEGE 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS BLUE 14000 MILES....£10995
06 06 MICRA 1-6 ESSENSA CONVERT AUTO PAS SILVER 28000 MILES....£9995
06 06 MEGANE DYNAMIC 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS BLUE 21000 MILES....£9995
06 06 MEGANE DYNAMIC 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS BLUE 10000 MILES....£10495
05 05 MEGANE DYNAMIC 1-6 CONVERT AUTO PAS BLUE 38000 MILES....£8495

FIAT

06 56 FIAT PANDA ELEGANZA 1242CC 5DR AUTO PAS BLACK 16000MILES....£5995

FUSION & FIESTA

07 57 FIESTA STYLE 1-6 CLIMATE AUTO PASAIR/C BLUE 19000 MILES....£7995
07 57 FIESTA STYLE 1-6 CLIMATE 3 DRAUTO PASAIR/C SILVER 1000 MILES....£7495
07 57 FUSION ZETEC 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE AUTO PAS AIR BLUE 1000 MILES....£8995
07 07 FUSION ZETEC 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE AUTO PAS AIR GREEN 4000 MILES....£8495
06 56 FUSION ZETEC 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE AUTO PAS AIR BLUE 8000 MILES....£7495
06 56 FIESTA STYLE 1-6 CLIMATE AUTO PASAIR/C BLUE 13000 MILES....£6995
03 53 FUSION 2 1-4 AUTO PAS AIR BLACK 4600 MILES....£3995

FORD FOCUS HATCHES & 4 DOORS

08 08 NEW FOCUS 1-6 ZETEC 5DRAUTO PAS AIR/C BLACK 4000 MILES....£11495
08 57 NEW FOCUS 1-6 STYLE AUTO PAS AIR/C BLUE 7000 MILES....£10495
07 57 FOCUS 1-6 STYLE AUTO PAS AIR/C MOONDUST SILVER 7000 MILES....£8995
07 57 FOCUS 1-6 ZETEC 5DRAUTO PAS AIR/CALLOYS GREEN 5000 MILES....£8995
07 57 FOCUS 16 ZETEC 3DRAUTO PAS AIR/C ALLOYS SEA GREY 13000 MILES....£8995
06 56 FOCUS 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE AUTO PASAIR OCEAN BLUE 8000 MILES....£7995
06 56 FORD FOCUS GHIA AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C SEA GREY 13000 MILES....£7995
06 56 FOCUS 1-6 GHIA AUTO PAS 4 DR ALLOYS TONIC BLUE 13000 MILES....£7995
06 56 FOCUS 1-6 GHIA AUTO PAS 4 DR ALLOYS SILVER 17000 MILES....£7995
06 56 FOCUS 1-6 GHIA AUTO PAS 4 DR ALLOYS TANGO 18000 MILES....£7995
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 LX HATCH AUTO PAS AIR/C STRATOS SILVER 10000 MILES....£6995
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 GHIA AUTO PAS 4 DR ALLOYS BLUE 12000 MILES....£7495
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 GHIA AUTO PAS 4 DR ALLOYS SILVER 21000 MILES....£7495
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE AUTO PAS AIR/C ESTATE TONIC16000MLS....£7495
05 55 FORD FOCUS GHIA 1-6 AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C DENIM BLUE 28000 MILES....£6995
03 03 FOCUS 2-0 GHIA AUTO 4 DOOR PAS AIR/C PEPPER RED 48000 MILES....£4995
03 03 FOCUS 2-0 GHIA AUTO 5 DOOR PAS AIR/C BLACK LEATHER 58000MILES....£4995

FORD FOCUS ESTATES

07 57 FOCUS 1-6 STYLE ESTATE AUTO AIR/C MOONDUST SILVER1900MILES....£8995
07 07 FOCUS 2-0 GHIA 5 DR AUTO PAS SEA GREY AIR 17000 MILES....£8995
06 56 FOCUS 2-0 GHIA ESTATE CAR AUTO PAS TONIC BLUE 23000 MILES....£8995
06 56 FOCUS 2-0 GHIA AUTO ESTATE PAS AIR/C TONIC BLUE 18000 MILES....£8495
06 56 FOCUS 1-6 LX ESTATE AUTO PAS AIR/C STEEL GREY 12000 MILES....£6995
06 56 FOCUS 1-6 LX ESTATE AUTO PAS AIR/C SILVER 17000 MILES....£6995
06 56 FOCUS 1-6 LX ESTATE AUTO PAS AIR/C SILVER 17000 MILES....£6995
06 56 FOCUS 1-6 LX ESTATE AUTO PAS AIR/C TANGO 21000 MILES....£6995
06 06 FOCUS 1-6 ZETEC CLIMATE ESTATE AUTO PAS AIR ALLOYS 11000MLS....£7495

MONDEO

06 56 MONDEO 2-0 GHIA AUTO PAS 5DR SILVER METALLIC 23000 MILES....£9495
06 56 MONDEO 2-0 LX AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C SILVER METALLIC 24000 MILES....£8495

CORSA

08 58 NEW CORSA 1-2 CLUB AUTO PAS AIR/C 3DR ICE BLUE 300 MILES....£8995
07 57 CORSA 1-4 DESIGN 3 DR AUTO PAS BLUE 9000 MILES....£9495
07 57 NEW CORSA 1-4 CLUB AUTO PAS AIR/C 3DR ULTRA BLUE15000 MILES....£7995
07 07 NEW CORSA 1-4 SX AUTO PAS AIR/C 5DR BLUE 2000MILES....£8995
07 56 CORSA 1-4 DESIGN 5 DR AUTO PAS SILVER 9000 MILES....£7995
07 56 CORSA 1-2 LIFE 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C SILVER 5000 MILES....£7995
06 06 CORSA 1-4 ACTIVE 5 DR AIR/C AUTO PAS BLUE 16000 MILES....£6995
06 06 CORSA 1-4 DESIGN 3 DR AUTO PAS SILVER 23000 MILES....£6495
06 06 CORSA 1-4 DESIGN 5 DR AUTO PAS SILVER 11000 MILES....£6995
06 06 CORSA 1-4 DESIGN 3 DR AUTO PAS ULTRA BLUE 2000MILES....£6995
06 06 CORSA 1-0 LIFE ECO AUTO PAS 5DR STAR SILVER 24000 MILES....£5495
06 06 CORSA 1-0 LIFE ECO AUTO PAS 5DR STAR MAUVE 26000 MILES....£5495
04 53 CORSA 1-4 DESIGN 3 DR AUTO PAS SILVER 14000MILES....£4995
03 53 CORSA 1-4 DESIGN 3 DR AUTO PAS SILVER 14000MILES....£4995

DAIHATSU

06 56 DAIHATSU SIRION SE 1-3 5 DR AUTO PAS SILVER 28000 MILES....£5995
06 56 DAIHATSU SIRION SE 1-3 5 DR AUTO PAS SILVER 16000 MILES....£5995
06 06 DAIHATSU CHARADE 1-0 5 DR AUTO PAS SILVER 12000 MILES....£4995

CITROENS

08 08 CITROEN C3 1-6 SX AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C BLUE 8000 MILES....£9995
08 08 CITROEN C3 1-6 SX AUTO PAS 5DR AIR/C BLUE 8000 MILES....£9995
06 56 CITROEN PICASSO 2-0 EXCLUSIVE AUTO DIABLO 16000 MILES....£8495

MAZDA

07 57 MAZDA 3 TS AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C 5DR SILVER 8000 MILES....£10995
06 56 MAZDA 6 TS AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C 5DR SEA GREY 16000 MILES....£9995
06 56 MAZDA 6 TS AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C 5DR MET BLUE 9000 MILES....£9995
06 56 MAZDA 6 TS AUTO PAS ALLOYS AIR/C 5DR SEA GREY 21000 MILES....£9495

SUZUKI

07 57 GRAND VITARA 2-0 5DR AUTO PAS AIR/C BLUE 8000 MILES....£11995
06 06 SUZUKI IGNIS 1-5 GL 5 DR AUTO PAS CATS EYES BLUE 15000 MILES....£5995
05 55 SUZUKI SWIFT 1-3 GLX 5DR AUTO PAS AIR GREY 16000 MILES....£7495
02 51 SUZUKI GRAND VITARA 2-0 DIESEL AUTO PAS SILVER 50000 MILES....£4995

KIA

06 56 KIA PICANTO 1-1 LX 5DR AUTO PAS AIR/CON 21000 MILES....£5995
06 56 KIA PICANTO 1-1 LX 5DR AUTO PAS AIR/CON 10000 MILES....£5995

HONDA

06 56 HONDA CRV SE AUTO PAS SILVER GREY AIR 10000 MILES....£11995
04 54 HONDA ACCORD 2-0 EXECUTIVE AUTO ESTATE 26000 MILES....£7995

HYUNDAI

08 08 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5 DR AUTO PAS MET GREY 5000 MILES....£6995
07 57 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5 DR AUTO PAS MET BLUE 5000 MILES....£6495
07 57 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5 DR AUTO PAS YELLOW 9000 MILES....£5995
07 57 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5 DR AUTO PAS YELLOW 9000 MILES....£5995
06 56 HYUNDAI MATRIX 1-6 GSi AUTO PAS 5DR SILVER GREEN 7000 MILES....£6995
06 56 HYUNDAI MATRIX 1-6 GSi AUTO PAS 5DR SILVER GREEN 16000 MILES....£6995
06 56 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5 DR AUTO PAS ELECTRIC BLUE 9000 MILES....£5495
06 06 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5 DR AUTO PAS ELECTRIC BLUE 7000 MILES....£5495
06 06 HYUNDAI AMICA 1-1 CDX 5 DR AUTO PAS BLUE 19000 MILES....£5295

TOYOTA

08 08 TOYOTA YARIS T3 AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DR ALLOYS BLACK 8000 MILES....£9495
07 57 YARIS 1-3 ZINC 3 DR AUTO PAS ALLOYS BLACK UNDER 800 MILES....£8995
07 57 AYGO 1-0 PLUS 3DR AUTO PAS SILVER 2000 MILES....£7495
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02 02 TOYOTA YARIS VERSO 1-3 GLS AUTO PAS SILVER 22000 MILES....£5995

NISSAN

08 08 NISSAN MICRA TEKNA 5 DR AUTO PAS INFERNO RED 9000 MILES....£9495
08 08 NISSAN MICRA ACENTA 5 DR AUTO PAS BLADE SILVER 10000 MILES....£8495
08 08 NISSAN MICRA ACENTA + 5 DR AUTO PAS CAFFE LATTE 4000 MILES....£8995
08 08 NISSAN NOTE ACENTA R 5 DR AUTO PAS BLACK MET 2000 MILES....£9995
07 57 NISSAN NOTE ACENTA 5 DR AUTO PAS CAFFE LATTE 4000 MILES....£8995
06 56 NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 5 DR AUTO PAS PACIFIC BLUE 5000 MILES....£7495
06 56 NISSAN MICRA INITIA 1-6 5 DR AUTO PAS BLADE SILVER 27000 MILES....£5995
06 56 NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 5 DR AUTO PAS PACIFIC BLUE 5000 MILES....£7495
06 56 NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 5 DR AUTO PAS PACIFIC BLUE 11000 MILES....£7495
06 56 NISSAN MICRA SVE 3 DR AUTO PAS INFERNO RED 23000 MILES....£6995
06 56 NISSAN MICRA SVE 3 DR AUTO PAS ICE BLUE 12000 MILES....£6995
06 06 NISSAN MICRA 1-2 S 5 DR AUTO PAS PACIFIC BLUE 11000 MILES....£6495
06 06 NISSAN MICRA 1-2 S 5 DR AUTO PAS PACIFIC BLUE 18000 MILES....£6495

SKODA

08 58 SKODA ROOMSTER 2 AUTO PAS AIR/C BLACK 6000 MILES....£9495
08 08 SKODA ROOMSTER 2 AUTO PAS AIR/C CHAMPAGNE 5000 MILES....£8995

MG ROVER

03 03 ROVER 45 IMPRESSION AUTO PAS AIR/C NIGHTFIRE RED 43000 MILES....£2995

CHEVROLET

09 09 CHEVROLET LACETTI 1-6 SX AUTO PAS 5 DR SILVER 900 MILES....£7995
08 08 CHEVROLET KALOS 1-4 SX 5DR AUTO PAS POLY SILVER 10000MILES....£6495
06 56 CHEVROLET MATIZ SE AUTO PAS 5 DR SILVER 10000 MILES....£4995
06 56 CHEVROLET MATIZ SE AUTO PAS 5 DR BLUE 12000 MILES....£4995
06 56 CHEVROLET LACETTI 1-6 SX AUTO PAS 5 DR SILVER 17000MILES....£5995
06 06 CHEVROLET LACETTI 1-6 SX AUTO PAS 5 DR BLUE 8000MILES....£5495
06 06 CHEVROLET LACETTI 1-6 SX AUTO PAS 5 DR SILVER 10000MILES....£5495
03 53 DAEWOO KALOS 1-4 SX AUTO PAS POLY SILVER 46000 MILES....£3995

VOLKSWAGEN

07 07 VW POLO 1-4 S 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C MET GREY 7000 MILES....£8995
06 56 VW JETTA SE TDi AUTO PAS MET GREY AIR/C 13000 MILES....£10995
06 56 VW POLO 1-4 S 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C BLACK 17000 MILES....£7995
06 06 VW GOLF 1-6 S 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C SILVER METALLIC 23000 MILES....£9995
06 06 VW GOLF 1-6 SE 5 DR AUTO PAS AIR/C GREY METALLIC 10000 MILES....£10995
05 05 VW POLO 1-4 TWIST 5DR AUTO PAS SILVER 30000 MILES....£6995

ASTRA HATCHES

08 08 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO PAS HATCH ULTRA BLUE 20000 MILES....£8995
08 08 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO PAS HATCH ULTRA BLUE 20000 MILES....£8995
07 57 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO PAS ALLOYS 5 DOOR SILVER 17000 MILES....£7995
07 07 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DOOR 15000 MILES....£7495
07 57 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR 5 DOOR TURQUOISE UNDER 300 MILES....£8495
07 07 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DOOR METRO BLUE 14000 MILES....£7495
07 07 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DOOR TURQUOISE 10000 MILES....£7995
07 07 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C 5 DOOR SILVER 40000 MILES....£7995
07 56 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS 5 DR AIR/C STAR SILVER 17000 MILES....£6495
06 56 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO PAS ALLOYS 5 DOOR SILVER 12000 MILES....£7995
06 56 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS 5 DR AIR/C RED METALLIC 19000 MILES....£6995
06 56 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO 5DR HATCH PAS AIR ULTRA BLUE 7000 MILES....£6995
06 06 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO PAS ALLOYS 5 DOOR ULTRA 8000 MILES....£7995
06 55 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO PAS ALLOYS HATCH SILVER 3000 MILES....£7495
04 54 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO PAS AIR 5DR MOONSTONE 38000MILES....£5995

ASTRA ESTATES

08 58 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C ESTATE BLUE 12000 MILES....£8995
08 08 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C ESTATE SILVER 12000 MILES....£8495
07 57 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO PAS ESTATE METRO BLUE 14000 MILES....£8995
07 57 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN LIFE AUTO PAS ESTATE MET GREY 7000 MILES....£8495

ASTRA ESTATES

07 07 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C ESTATE PANACOTTA 6000 MILES....£7495
06 56 ASTRA 18 LIFE AUTO 5DR ESTATE PAS AIR PANNACOTTA 17000MILES....£6995
06 56 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO 5DR ESTATE PAS AIR STAR SILVER 8000 MILES....£6995
06 56 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO 5DR ESTATE PAS AIR METRO BLUE11000MILES....£6995
06 56 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO PAS ALLOYS ESTATE SILVER11000MILES....£7995
06 56 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO PAS ALLOYS ESTATE SILVER13000MILES....£7995
06 56 ASTRA 1-8 DESIGN AUTO AIR 5 DR ESTATE ULTRA BLUE 18000M....£7495
06 06 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO 5DR ESTATE PAS AIR ULTRA BLUE 12000 MILES....£6495
06 06 ASTRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO 5DR ESTATE PAS AIR ULTRA BLUE 20000 MILES....£6495
06 06 ASTRA 1-8 CLUB AUTO 5DR ESTATE PAS AIR BLACK 12000 MILES....£6495

NEW ZAFRIA & MERIVA 5 & 7 SEATS MPV'S

08 08 ZAFIRA 19 EXCLUSIVE DIESEL AUTO PAS BLACK MET 8000 MILES....£12995
08 08 MERIVA 1-6 LIFE AUTO PAS AIR/C 5DR BLUE 7000 MILES....£8995
08 57 ZAFIRA 2-2 CLUB AUTO PAS PANNACOTTA 7 SEATER 1700 MILES....£10995
08 57 ZAFIRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS PANNACOTTA 7 SEATER 10000 MILES....£9995
07 57 ZAFIRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS METRO BLUE 7 SEATER 10000 MILES....£9495
07 07 ZAFIRA 1-8 LIFE AUTO PAS SILVER 7 SEATER 17000 MILES....£8995
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Discount price of £4795 relates to Matiz 0.8 S 5dr model only (for Aveo 1.2 S 3dr £5995). Vehicles shown feature metallic paint available at extra cost (Matiz £335, Aveo £365). 3 years/30,000 miles full service package at an optional cost of £259. The savings are against current MRP and available on UK supplied vehicles ordered before 28th February, 2010 and registered before 28th June, 2010. Prices correct at time of going to press. At participating retailers only. Extra savings provided by Chevrolet UK Ltd only. Cannot be used with any other offer and are subject to status, eligibility, terms and conditions. Available to private individuals and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only). All other Sales categories are excluded. Offer ends 28th February, 2010. Excludes Isle of Man and Channel Islands. £2,000 Government Scrappage Allowance is dependent on the vehicle meeting the full Government Scrappage incentive criteria when traded in against a new car subject to conditions and whilst Government funding applies. The Government Scrappage payment applies to vehicles registered on or before 29th February 2000. Prize Draw: 1.Participants must be resident in the UK aged 18 years. 2. No purchase is necessary and entry to the free prize draw is open to UK residents. To enter bring a copy of this advert and you will automatically be entered in to the free prize draw to win Protection and Travel Pack. Entries to the prize draw are only valid if completed in full using the official entry form. Photocopies are not acceptable. Damaged, defaced, incomplete or illegible entries will be disqualified and will not be returned. Completed entries must be handed to FG Barnes Limited, Sutton Road, Parkwood Estate, Maidstone, Kent ME15 9FB. 3. No responsibility shall be accepted by the Promoter for lost, mutilated, incomplete or missing entries, although FG Barnes Limited will take all reasonable care to forward all eligible entries for the draw. All entries received by the Promoter become the property of the Promoter, and will not be returned. 4. The Closing Date for all entries to the free prize draw is 1800 hours 28th March 2010 (the "Closing Date"). 5. The Prize Draw will take place on 29th March 2010 and the winner will be drawn at random by an independent adjudicator. The adjudicators' decision is final, and no correspondence will be entered into by the Promoter. Full terms and conditions can be obtained from FG Barnes Maidstone.

Official Government Environment Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km). Aveo 1.2 S 3dr: Urban - 39.2 (7.2), Extra-urban - 61.4 (4.6), Combined - 51.4 (5.5). CO_2 emissions 132g/km. Matiz 0.8 S 5dr: Urban - 43.5(6.5), Extra-urban - 68.9 (4.1), Combined - 56.5 (5.0). CO_2 emissions 119g/km.



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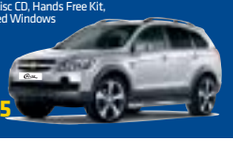
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Official Government Environment Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO2 emissions (g/km). Matiz 0.8 S 5dr: Urban - 43.5 (6.5), Extra-urban - 68.9 (4.1), Combined - 56.5 (5.0). CO2 emissions 119g/km.
Vehicle shown features mica paint available at extra cost of £325. 3 years/30,000 miles full service package at an optional cost of £249. Available at participating retailers only. Not available in conjunction with any other offers. Savings against current man. rec. price and available on UK supplied vehicles ordered and registered before 28th February 2010. Prices correct at time of press. (Chev79242). Scrappage Allowance subject to eligibility, please ask for terms and conditions.

FIRST GEAR

Compiled by Steve Loader

500 offers even more

NOT content with making the Fiat 500 one of the most affordable style statements on the market, the Italian marque continues to make it cheaper to run.

The latest move on that front is a new economy diesel flagship coming soon; the former 75bhp 1.3-litre MultiJet unit will make way for a more potent, but more environmentally-friendly 95bhp 'MultiJet II' version of the same capacity.

The car's 0-62mph acceleration is cut from 12.5 to just 10.7 seconds, but combined mpg improves from 67.3mpg to 72.4mpg and emissions drop to 104g/km of CO2 (from 110g/km).



Nissan catches the eye with new Juke

SEEMINGLY overnight, Nissan has gone from being the 'boring' car brand to the 'bonkers' one.

The Japanese marque now has an array of eye-catchers from the hugely successful Qashqai crossover, through the intriguing Cube city-car-cum-MPV to the sporting 370Z (see this week's road test) and GT-R affordable supercar.

But even these are upstaged by Nissan's new supermini sector crossover, the Juke – to be built at the company's Sunderland plant.

It should provoke much discussion before arriving in October through it bug-eyed funky chunky styling, designed to appeal particularly to the 'bloke market' in an increasingly effete sector.

Despite mini 4x4 looks – and it will have an all-wheel drive option – it also has a coupé stance underlined by rear door handles hidden in the frame of the door.

A top-level quote from Nissan says it all: "Juke brings a sense of adventure to the car market. It's light, nimble, urban, reactive: qualities designed to grab a younger audience.

"It offers something entirely different to the traditional B-segment (supermini) vehicles and cements Nissan as a car maker prepared to do something different."



Dealerships igniting Spark

CHEVROLET dealers already have demonstrator stocks of the all-new Spark city car although the car is not officially launched until next month.

It is a measure of interest in this cheap yet capacious little car which succeeds the clever, but now ageing Matiz.

Chevy has created a crisply-drawn high roof five-door with fashionably concealed rear door handles but, with dealers knocking out final Matiz stocks for as little at £4,995, Spark prices from £6,945 look expensive.

However, it is far more sophisticated and comes with generous standard kit including air con, electric front windows and six airbags, which enabled the Spark to score an overall four out of five stars in the Euro NCAP crash test, with a maximum five stars for child protection.





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by STEVELOADER

Lion's pride in 10 deals for new '10 plate

PEUGEOT'S lion badge has been stifling a roar for some time, but the French marque is really making a noise this year.

Over the past few months, it has completely rethought its stance in the people carrier/MPV sector; having left this largely to sister brand Citroën and championed a series of roomy SW estates instead, Peugeot has launched two space machines.

Okay, the excellent 3008 – recent winner of What Car? magazine's car of the year 'Oscar' – is really a crossover akin to the Nissan Qashqai, but it is an especially good people mover too.

And for those who still don't think it has a big enough cabin, Peugeot followed up with the classy and glassy seven-seat 5008 – equivalent to and derived from Citroën's big C4 Grand Picasso.

If your attention drifts at the mention of 'MPV' though, the marque also has a terrific cult coupé on the way – the Audi TT rivalling RCZ due in May, and priced from a comparatively reasonable £20,450.

Even a cheap TT will cost you at least £6,000 more and without the generous standard spec we can expect from the French flier, which is likely to gain a green hybrid spin-off version later on too.

Peugeot has also worked hard generally to improve its interiors, using the cabin of last year's smart 308CC coupé cabriolet as a showcase for how leather, clocks and gauges can be worked into affordable luxury.

And now the brand is attacking the March '10 new reg moment with an appropriate line-up of 10 big offers including five no deposit/low interest lures on key models – three being big-selling models from its 207 supermini range, including the chic 207CC coupe cabriolet.

There are also deals on the 308 hatchback range – the 308CC mentioned earlier can be had on a zero per cent finance deal in return for a 25 per cent deposit.

Perhaps the biggest eye-catchers though are tempting deals on those two newcomers to the people moving sector, the 3008 crossover and the 5008. The former can be bought with a no deposit/7.9 per cent APR finance deal on Sport and Exclusive versions with metallic paint offered free of charge, while a 25 per cent deposit secures Sport or Exclusive 5008 models on a three-year zero per cent finance deal.

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Official fuel consumption for the SEAT Ibiza 5dr range in mpg (litres per 100km); urban 33.6 (8.4) - 57.6 (4.9); extra-urban 56.5 (5.0) - 94.2 (3.0); combined 44.8 (6.3) - 76.3 (3.7). CO_2 emissions 98 - 149 g/km.

Official Government Environmental Test Data. Saab 9-3 Convertible Linear SE 1.8t Man. Fuel consumption mpg (litres/100km): Urban 25.7 (11), Extra-urban 47.9 (5.9) Combined 36.2 (7.8) CO_2 emissions 186g/km.

On the road prices include number plates, delivery, Vehicle Excise Duty, first registration fee and VAT. Offer valid for registrations and orders between 01.01.10 and 31.03.10. Price shown is available on selected dealer stocks only, at participating dealers subject to availability. Available to private individuals and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only). All other sales categories are excluded; cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer or promotion except Scrappage Allowance. Scrappage Allowance dependent on meeting full Government Scrappage incentive criteria whilst funding applies. Model shown is 9-3 Convertible Linear SE 1.8t Man. Rec. OTR price £26,590, offer price £19,995.

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DrivingReview



by STEVELOADER

CHIEF DRIVING CORRESPONDENT
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

Nissan370Z

Latest Z-Car upholds a proud legacy



NISSAN'S latest 'Z-Car' looks pretty fit for a 40-year-old.

Yes, it was 1970 when the Japanese marque launched the first of its sporting coupés upon the UK public.

The dynasty has not always impressed like that debutante – then known by the brand's former UK handle of Datsun – and there have been breaks in the lineage, but the beefy 2003 vintage 350Z marked an impressive return to form and was replaced last year by the truly excellent 370Z derivative tested here in flagship GT form.

This pretty much ticks open boxes left by its predecessor.

Firstly, while nobody doubted the value for money offered by the 350Z, the cabin showed where corners had been cut, but the new car looks about right for its £28,000-31,300 price band. I was particularly impressed with the electrically-controlled/heated seats, which cosset you in a low slung driving position.

Secondly, while the 350Z looked muscular to many eyes, some saw it as porkiness; despite being seven centimetres shorter though, the 370Z echoes the previous styling yet the waistline is more athletic and prompted many admiring glances in the KOS Media car park.

Thirdly, a rather intrusive bracing bar behind the front seats on the 350Z has been lowered and better camouflaged without affecting the rock solid rigidity of the car, which is also 32 kilos lighter thanks to aluminium doors, bonnet and tailgate.

Though still a two-seater with a fairly minimalist boot beneath the high lift tailgate, there is also now a handy shelf for briefcases and laptops behind the seats – it's almost a smart 'mobile office' for the thrusting young exec.

If all this sounds like the 'Z' has gone soft though, think again. The 328bhp 3.7-litre V6 – up from the 350Z's 309bhp – can still sound brutal when challenged even if it revs cleanly (0-60mph in 5.3 seconds) and feels refined and muted for its type when asked to make a high-speed motorway dash.

Like its predecessor though, the 370Z can still be hard work in traffic, with its heavy clutch and a six-speed gearshift that can feel lumpy at low speeds – the seven-speed auto option might be the better bet if you want more all-round ability.

However, the manual option does have some clever tech in the form of the Synchro Rev

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*ON THE ROAD RECOMMENDED PRICES AND OFFERS APPLY TO RETAIL SALES OF QUALIFYING NEW CITROËN VEHICLES ORDERED AND REGISTERED 01/01/10–31/03/10 AND INCLUDE VAT, DELIVERY TO DEALER AND NUMBER PLATES, GOVERNMENT FIRST REGISTRATION FEE, AND 12 MONTHS' GRADUATED VEHICLE EXCISE DUTY. BLACK/METALLIC/PEARLESCENT/BOTTICELLI PAINT OPTIONAL AT EXTRA COST. FROM PRICES SHOWN: NEW CITROËN C3 PICASSO VT 1.4 16V VTi 95HP £12445 AND CITROËN GRAND C4 PICASSO VTR 1.6 16V VTi 120HP £18405. ♦5.9% APR TYPICAL ELECT 3 FINANCE AVAILABLE ON ALL NEW C3 PICASSO (EXCLUDING 1.4 VTi VT) AND ALL GRAND C4 PICASSO MODELS. FINANCE SUBJECT TO STATUS. WRITTEN QUOTATIONS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST FROM CITROËN FINANCIAL SERVICES, QUADRANT HOUSE, PRINCESS WAY, REDHILL, SURREY, RH1 1QA, UK. OVER 18S ONLY. A GUARANTEE MAY BE REQUIRED. SCRAPPAGE ALLOWANCE AND FINANCE/SERVICING PACK OFFERS ARE MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE. OFFERS, PRICES AND SPECIFICATION CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS FROM PARTICIPATING DEALERS. TERMS & CONDITIONS APPLY. PLEASE ASK US FOR DETAILS. ALL MODELS SUBJECT TO STOCK AVAILABILITY. FINANCE OFFERS APPLY TO UK ONLY. ΔCOMBINED CYCLE.
OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT FUEL CONSUMPTION FIGURES(RANGE): URBAN CYCLE, EXTRA URBAN, COMBINED (LITRES PER 100KM/MPG) & CO2 EMISSIONS (G/KM); HIGHEST: CITROËN GRAND C4 PICASSO 1.6 16V VTi 120HP 10.0/28.2, 5.9/47.9, 7.4/38.2, 174. LOWEST: NEW CITROËN C3 PICASSO 1.6HDi 16V 90HP EXCLUSIVE 5.6/50.4, 4.0/70.6, 4.5/62.8, 119.

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Control (SRC). Nissan calls it "the world's first fully synchronised down/up shift rev control system allowing drivers of any skill level to experience perfectly smooth gear shifts every time".

I rushed to find the off-switch after trying it though, preferring to blip the throttle myself – half the fun of a traditional sportster like this.

Nevertheless, it's probably a sign of the times that a car can even do this for you now; how long before a driver can be reading one of our online newpspaers while the car speeds automatically along the M20…?

However, there is nothing boring about the 370Z on a decent fast road. The wheelbase is slightly shorter than before, but the rear-driven coupé is well-balanced and the direct steering and lively engine – in both rev and sound departments – make for an exciting drive.

There is a predictable and well-controlled tendency to step out slightly on the corners that makes it a real enthusiast's car – especially with the SRC switched off.

It also represents superb value.

Obvious German rivals to the 370Z series – a lovely roadster arrives in March priced from £29,900 – are the Audi TT, BMW Z4 and the Porsche Boxster/Cayman.

The Nissan cannot have the same badge cachet, but for ability and standard spec at bargain prices, it must not be ignored.

DrivingPortfolio

NISSAN 370Z GT PACK £31,300

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★
Reliability	★★★★★
How green?	★
Road tax	£405/year
Best rival	Porsche Cayman

TheVerdict

DON'T LIKE: thinking the 'Synchro Rev Control' – adds needlessly to the car's bargain price

NOT SURE: the Nissan gains the 370Z the respect it deserves

REALLY LIKE: the way Nissan has worked to right the few wrongs of the 350Z

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2005 55 CLIO 1.2 EXTREME 3-DR
PAS C/LOCKING 5-SPD 29000 MILES TEMPEST GREY MET £4,995 C

2005 55 CLIO CAMPUS 3DR 1.2 8V
C/LOCKING POWER STEERING 20513 MILES MET MERCURY SILVER £4,995 M

2007 57 CLIO 3DR CAMPUS 1.2 8V
C/LOCKING POWER STEERING 4359 MILES NON MET PACIFIC BLUE £5,495 C

2005 55 CLIO 5DR 1.4 16V DYNAMIQUE
AIRCON SUNROOF ALLOYS 40179 MILES MET PLATINUM SILVER £5,795 M

2006 06 NEW CLIO 1.4 DYN S 3-DR
AIR CON ALLOYS PAS C/LOCKING ELC/WIND 22000 MILES PEARL BLACK £6,295 C

2007 07 CLIO 3DR 1.2 16V EXTREME
ALLOYS C/D PLAYER C/LOCKING 19199 MILES MERCURY GREY £6,295 M

2006 56 NEW CLIO 1.4 DYNAMIQUE 3DR
ALLOY WHEELS CD PLAYER FOG LIGHTS IN MET GREY 24124 MILES £6,495 C

2006 06 CLIO 3DR 1.4 16V DYNAMIQUE
AIRCON ALLOYS REAR PARK SYSTEM 20562 MILES MET PEARL BLACK £6,495 M

2006 56 CLIO 3DR 1.216V EXTREME
AIRCON ALLOYS CD/PLAYER 30286 MILES MET PEARL BLACK £6,495 M

2006 56 NEW CLIO 1.5 DCI 86 EXPRESSION 5DR
CD AIR CON ELEC PACK 9620 MILES MONACO BLUE £6,795 A

2006 06 NEW CLIO 1.4 DYN 3-DR
PAN/S/ROOF AIRCON ELC/WIND PAS C/LOCK 24000 MILES ECLIPSE £6,795 C

2007 07 CLIO 3DR 1.2 16V EXPRESSION
ALLOYS AIRCON C/LOCKING 9260 MILES METALLIC PEARL BLACK £6,795 M

2006 06 NEW CLIO 1.5 DCI86 EXPRESSION 3DR
AIR CON CD PARK SENSORS ELEC PACK 31000 MILES FLAME RED £6,995 A

2007 07 NEW CLIO 1.2 16V TOMTOM 3DR
15" ALLOYS CD AIR CON SPORTS TRIM 33254 MILES PEARL BLACK £6,995 A

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AIR CON ELEC WIND PAS C/LOCK 14250 MILES IN EXTREME BLUE £6,995 C

2006 56 NEW CLIO 1.2 EXPRESSION 5-DR
AIRCON ELC/WIND PAS C/LOCK 18000 MILES MERCURY SILVER MET £6,995 M

2007 07 NEW CLIO 1.2 EXTREME 3-DR
ELC/WIN PAS 5-SPED ALLOYS 12000 MILES MERCURY MET £6,995 C

2006 06 CLIO 3DR 1.6VVT AUTO EXPRESSION
AIRCON C/LOCKING SINGLE C/D PLAYER 13000 MILES MET MERCURY GREY £6,995 M

2007 57 NEW CLIO 1.2 TCE 100 DYNAMIQUE 3DR
15" ALLOYS CD AIR CON ELEC PACK 19450 MILES PACIFIC BLUE £7,295 A

2005 05 RENAULTSPORT 182 CLIO
16" ALLOYS CLIMATE 1/2 LEATHER CRUISE 38852 MILES TITANIUM £7,295 A

2007 57 CLIO 3DR 1.2TCE DYNAMIQUE AIRCON ALLOYS C/D PLAYER 14821 MILES MET ECLIPSE GREY £7,295 M

2007 57 NEW CLIO 1.4 16V DYNAMIQUE 3DR
15" ALLOYS CD AIR CON ELEC PACK 24715 MILES MERCURY SILVER £7,395 C

2007 57 NEW CLIO 1.2 TCE 100 EXPRESSION 3DR
AIRCON CD PLAYER PAS C/LOCKING IN BLUE MET 7729 MILES £7,495 C

2006 06 NEW CLIO DYNAMIQUE 1.5 DCI 106
AIR CON CD PLAYER FOG LIGHTS IN BLACK MET 21091 MILES £7,495 C

2007 07 NEW CLIO 1.5 DCI 68 EXPRESSION 3DR
CD AIR CON ELEC PACK 13223 MILES ECLIPSE GREY MET £7,795 A

2008 08 NEW CLIO 1.2 TCE 100 EXPRESSION 3DR
ALLOYS CD AIR CON ELEC PACK 8934 MILES MERCURY £7,895 A

2006 06 NEW CLIO 1.5 DCI 106 DYNAMIQUE 3DR
15" ALLOYS CD AIR CON SPORTS TRIM 17353 MILES MERCURY £7,995 A

2007 57 CLIO 3DR 1.2 TCE DYNAMIQUE
ALLOYS/C/D PLAYER 16882 MILES METALLIC MERCURY SILVER £7,995 M

2008 08 NEW CLIO 1.2 TCE DYNAMIQUE 3-DR
AIRCON ELC/WIN PAS C/LOCK ALLOYS MERCURY MET 10400 MILES £7,995 C

2008 58 NEW CLIO 1.2 TCE100 EXPRESSION 5-DR
PAS C/LOCK ELC/WIND ICE BLUE MET 5000 MILES ONLY EX DEMO £8,295 M

2007 57 NEW CLIO 1.4 PRIVILEGE 5DR
AIRCON ELEC WIN PAS C/LOCKING CD IN SILVER 23746 MILES £8,295 C

2008 58 NEW CLIO 1.2 TCE 100 DYN 3DR
AIRCON ELEC WIN PAS C/LOCKING CD IN EXTREME BLUE 14750 MILES £8,995 C

2008 58 CLIO 5DR 1.5 DCI 86 DYNAMIQUE
ALLOYS A/C C/LOCKING C/D PLAYER 39000 MILES MET PEARL BLACK £8,995 M

2008 58 NEW CLIO 1.2 TCE 100 DYNAMIQUE 5DR
16" ALLOYS S/R CD A/C AUTO LIGHTS & WIPERS 11253 MILES VOLCANO £9,295 A

2006 56 NEW CLIO 1.6 AUTO INITIALE
ALLOYS FOG LIGHTS ELEC PACK KEYLESS ENTRY 20716 MILES IN BLACK £9,495 C

2009 09 CLIO SPORT TOURER 1.2 16V ALLOYS CD AIR CON ELEC PACK IN EXTREME BLUE 8500 MILES £9,495 C

2008 57 NEW CLIO 5DR 1.6VVT INITIALE
CLIMATE ALLOYS KEYLESS ENTRY 5863 MILES MET PEARL BLACK £9,695 M

2007 07 RENAULTSPORT CLIO 197
17"ALLOYS CD AIR CON HANDS FREE CARD 22250 MILES ULTRA RED £10,995 A

2007 07 CLIO 3DR 197 2.0LTR ALLOYS AIRCON KEYLESS ENTRY SPOILER 9071 MILES ULTRA RED £11,295 M

2009 59 NEW CLIO 1.5 DCI 86 DYNAMIQUE 3DR
16" ALLOYS CD AIR CON ELEC PACK 4500 MILES EXTREME BLUE £11,795 A

2008 08 RENAULTSPORT CLIO 197
17" BLACK ALLOYS CLIMATE CUP SPOILER 10655 MILES WHITE £12,895 A

TWINGO

2008 08 TWINGO 1.2 16V DYNAMIQUE
CD PAC C/LOCKING 6650 MILES MET EXTREME BLUE £6,795 C

2007 57 TWINGO 1.2 16V DYNAMIQUE
15" ALLOYS CD AIR CON REMOTE LOCKING 10729 MERCURY £6,995 A

2008 08 TWINGO 1.2 TCE GT
15" ALLOYS CD AIR CON ELECPACK REAR SPOILER 10870 MILES MERCURY £7,795 A

2007 57 TWINGO 3DR 1.2 TCE GT
AIRCON ALLOYS C/LOCKING 19275 MILES MET MERCURY GREY £7,995 M

2008 58 TWINGO RENAULTSPORT 133
17" ALLOYS CUP PACK A/C CD ONLY 650 MILES MERCURY £10,695 M

2009 09 TWINGO RENAULTSPORT 133
17" ALLOYS CUP PACK A/C CD BLUE TOOTH 3300 MILES PEARL BLACK £11,995 A

MODUS

2005 05 MODUS 1.5DCI EXPRESSION PAS AIRCON PLATINUM SILVER WITH 30868 MILES £5,795 C

2007 57 MODUS 1.2 TCE 100 EXPRESSION
AIR CON CD ELEC PACK 5570 MILES MERCURY SILVER £6,995 A

2008 08 MODUS 1.6 VVT DYNAMIQUE AUTO
AIRCON ALLOYS C/LOCKING 6500 MILES MET MERCURY GREY £8,995 M

2008 08 GRAND MODUS 1.5 DCI 86 DYNAMIQUE
15" ALLOYS CD A/C ELEC PACK 10280 MILES NOCTURN NETALLIC £9,295 A

2008 58 GRAND-MODUS 1.2 TCE DYNAMIQUE
ALLOYS CD A/C E-FOLDING MIRRORS 5659 MILES MET NIGHTWATCH BLUE £9,795 A

MEGANE

2007 07 MEGANE 1.4 16V AUTHENTIQUE 5DR
A/C 16" ALLOYS CD ELEC FRONT WINDOWS 24574 MILES MERCURY £6,495 A

2007 56 MEGANE 5DR 1.4LTR EXPRESSION
AIRCON C/LOCKING C/D PLAYER 22000 MILES MET GUNMETAL £6,495 C

2007 07 MEGANE 1.4 EXTREME 3-DR AIRCON ELC/WIND PAS C/LOCK 25000 MILES GUNMETAL GREY MET £6,795 C

2007 07 MEGANE S/H 1.6 VVT DYNAMIQUE AUTO
AIR CON CD 16" ALLOYS HANDS FREE 38797 MILES ECLIPSE GREY £6,895 A

2007 57 MEGANE 1.4 16V EXPRESSION 5DR
CD AIR CON ELEC PACK 25200 MILES OPORTO RED MET £6,995 A

2005 05 MEGANE 1.6 VVT PRIVILEGE 5DR
CLIMATE C/LOCKING PAS CD PLAYER IN ECLIPSE GREY 34001 MILES £6,995 C

2007 07 MEGANE 1.6 VVT EXTREME 5DR
16"ALLOYS CD AIR CON ELEC WINDOWS 38210 MILES ECLIPSE GREY £7,295 A

2006 56 MEGANE 1.6 VVT DYNAMIQUE AUTO 5DR
16" ALLOYS CD AIR CON ELEC PACK 31617 MILES EXTREME BLUE £7,295 A

2007 07 MEGANE 1.6VVT DYNAMIQUE 5DR
16" ALLOYS CD AIR CON PANORAMIC SUNROOF 26500 MILES PEARL BLACK £7,395 A

2007 07 MEGANE 1.5 DCI 86 EXTREME 5DR
16" ALLOYS CD AIR CON ELEC PACK 21990 MILES PEARL BLACK £7,495 A

2007 07 MEGANE 1.6 VVT S/TOURER DYNAMIQUE
A/C 16" ALLOYS CD ELEC PACK 19190 MILES GUN METAL GREY MET £7,495 A

2007 56 MEGANE 5DR 1.6VVT AUTO DYNAMIQUE
AIRCON ALLOYS C/D PLAYER 19367 MILES METALLIC MERCURY GREY £7,795 C

2008 58 MEGANE 5DR 1.6VVT AUTO DYNAMIQUE
ALLOYS A/CON C/PLAYER 11790 MILES METALLIC OYSTER GREY £9,395 M

2008 08 MEGANE 1.6 VVT DYNAMIQUE AUTO 5DR
AIR CON CD 16" ALLOYS SUNROOF 9796 MILES EXTREME BLUE £9,695 A

2007 07 MEGANE 5DR 2.0 DCI 150 GT 17" ALLOYS AIRCON C/LOCKING 30825 MILES MET PEARL BLACK £9,795 M

2008 08 EX DEMO MEGANE 1.5 DCI 106 TECH RUN
CLIMATE S/ROOF ALLOYS HANDS FREE CARD 13500 MILES STONE MET £9,995 A

2008 58 MEGANE 1.6VVT DYNAMIQUE S 5DR
CLIMATE 1/2 LEATHER 16" ALLOYS SUNROOF 10513 MILES PEARL BLACK £10,295 A

2007 07 MEGANE RENAULTSPORT 225 CLIMATE ALLOYS PAS ELC/WIN 14000 MILES MERCURY MET £11,495 C

2008 58 MEGANE 2.0 DCI 150 GT 5DR 17" ALLOYS SUNROOF 7 x CD BODY KIT 13991 MILES RUBY RED £11,995 A

2008 58 NEW MEGANE 1.6 110 DYNAMIQUE
ALLOYS AIR CON S/ROOF CD ELEC PACK 13000 MILES MET PEARL BLACK £11,995 M

2008 08 MEGANE 3DR RENAULTSPORT 225 ALLOYS BLACK LEATHER TRIM 12000 MILES MET DEEP BLACK £12,695 M

2008 58 NEW MEGANE 1.9 DCI 130 DYNAMIQUE
ALLOYS AIR CON S/ROOF CD ELEC PACK 13000 MILES MET OYSTER GREY £13,295 M

2008 58 NEW MEGANE 1.5 106 DYNAMIQUE 5DR
17" ALLOYS SAT NAV CD CLIMATE 16700 MILES SPRAY BLUE £13,995 A

2008 58 NEW MEGANE COUPE 1.5 106 DYNAMIQUE
17" ALLOYS BODY KIT BLUE TOOTH 17800 MILES GLACIER WHITE £14,295 A

2008 58 MEGANE 5DR 1.5DCI 106BHP PRIVILEGE
ALLOYS CLIMATE SAT NAV 11569 MILE MET SPRAY BLUE £14,495 M

2009 58 NEW MEGANE COUPE 1.9 130 PRIVILEGE
17" ALLOYS 1/2 LEATHER BLUE TOOTH 7000 MILES CAVENNE £16,995 A

SCENIC

2005 05 SCENIC 5DR 1.6 16v DYNAMIQUE AUTO
ALLOYS AIRCON C/D PLAYER 46244 MILES MET PEARL BLACK £5,495 M

2005 05 SCENIC 5DR 1.6 16v DYNAMIQUE
ALLOYS AIRCON C/D PLAYER 32599 MILES MET MERCURY GREY £5,995 M

2006 56 SCENIC 1.6 EXPRESSION 5-DR AIRCON ELC/WIND PAS C/LOCK 17000 MILES MERCURY MET £6,495 C

2006 06 SCENIC 5DR 1.6VVT DYNAMIQUE
ALLOYS AIRCON C/LOCKING 25000 MILES MET INK BLUE £6,495 M

2006 06 SCENIC 1.6 VVT DYNAMIQUE AUTO
16" ALLOYS CD SUNROOF AIR CON 18891 MILES QUARTZ £6,895 A

2006 56 GRAND SCENIC 1.6VVT OASIS
7 SEATS 16" ALLOYS CD AIR CON GLASS ROOF 29170 MILES FLAME RED £7,295 A

2006 56 SCENIC 5DR 1.6VVT DYNAMIQUE
ALLOYS AIRCON C/LOCKING 34820 MILES MET FLAME RED £7,495 M

2006 56 SCENIC 1.6VVT AUTO DYNAMIQUE
16" ALLOYS CD AIR CON S/ROOF ARM REST 15329 MET ICE BLUE £7,795 A

2006 56 GRAND SCENIC 1.6 VVT DYNAMIQUE
7 SEATS 16" ALLOYS CD AIR CON 18300 MILESMET ICE BLUE £8,495 A

2007 57 SCENIC 1.6 DYNAMIQUE ALLOYS CD AIR CON ELEC PACK 19597 MILES IN BLACK MET £8,995 C

2008 08 SCENIC 1.6 VVT DYNAMIQUE ALLOYS CD AIR CON ELEC PACK 24017 MILES IN QUARTZ MET £9,795 C

2008 58 G-SCENIC 7ST 1.6VVT DYNAMIQUE'S
ALLOYS CLIMATE CRUISE 1/2 LEATHER 25280 MILES MET ICE BLUE £10,995 M

2008 58 GRAND SCENIC 1.6VVT DYNAMIQUE'S
ALLOYS CLIMATE CRUISE 1/2 LEATHER 22898 MILES MET PEARL BLACK £10,995 A

LAGUNA

2008 58 NEW LAGUNA 2.0 DCI 175 DYNAMIQUE
17" 1/2 LEATHER HANDS FREE CONVEN PACK 26875 MILES PEARL BLACK £11,995 A

2008 08 NEW LAGUNA S/T 2.0 DCI 150 DYNAMIQUE
1/2 LEATHER ALLOYS CD CRUISE CLIMATE SUNROOF 25800 MILES PEARL BLACK £12,295 A

2008 08 NEW LAGUNA 2.0 DCI 150 DYNAMIQUE'S'
1/2 LEATHER 17" ALLOYS CD CRUISE CLIMATE S/R 15104 MILES PEARL BLACK £12,995 A

2008 08 NEW LAGUNA 2.0 DCI GT SAT NAV 18" ALLOYS 4 WHEEL STEER 10000 MILES MERCURY SILVER £14,495 C

2008 08 NEW LAGUNA 2.0 DCI 175 INITIAL AUTO S/TOUR
SAT NAV BLACK LEATHER ALLOYS MERCURY MET EX-DEMO £15,495 C

CABRIOLET

2005 55 MEGANE CC 2.0 VVT 136 DYNAMIQUE
AIR CON RED LEATHER CD ALLOYS 36000 MILES MET FLAME RED £8,495 M

2006 05 MEGANE CC 1.6 VVT DYNAMIQUE AIR CON ALLOYS CD ELEC PACK 31491MILES MET BLACK £8,995 C

2006 06 MEGANE CC 1.6 VVT PRIVILEGE CLIMATE ALLOYS BEIGE LEATHER OTTAMAN BLUE 29000 MILES £8,995 C

2007 07 MEGANE CC DCI 106 DYNAMIQUE 5DR
ALLOYS CD CLIMATE CRUISE 1583 MILES IN MERCURY SILVER £9,995 C

2006 06 MEGANE CC DCI 106 DYNAMIQUE 5DR
AIR CON ALLOYS CD ELEC PACK 23000 MILES MET QUARTZ £9,995 M

2006 06 MEGANE CC 1.9 DCI 130 PRIVILEGE
CLIMATE ALLOYS BEIGE PART LEATHER QUARTZ 33000 MILES £10,495 C

2006 56 MEGANE CC 2.0 DCI 150 DYNAMIQUE
16 '' ALLOYS CD A/C PARK SENSORS RED LEATHER 23942 MILES MERCURY £11,395 A

2007 07 MEGANE CC 1.9 DCI 130 DYNAMIQUE
17" ALLOYS CD CLIMATE CRUISE 16793 MILES MERCURY £11,395 A

2007 07 MEGANE CC 1.6 VVT PRIVILEGE
CLIMATE LEATHER ALLOYS CD PAS IN BLACK WITH 27129 MILE £11,495 C

2008 08 MEGANE CC 1.6 VVT DYNAMIQUE
16" ALLOYS CD CLIMATE ELEC PACK 7800 MILES MET PEARL BLACK £11,495 M

2007 57 MEGANE CC 1.5 DCI 106 DYNAMIQUE 17" ALLOYS CRUISE CLIMATE 20152 MILES MET QUARTZ £12,295 A

KOLEOS

2008 08 KOLEOS 2.0 DCI 175 PRIVILEGE 4x4
CLIMATE FULL LEATHER SAT NAV 17" ALLOYS 13810 MILES PEARL BLACK £17,995 A

OTHER MAKES

2006 06 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.3 CDTI 3DR ALLOYS AIR CONC CD 26334 MILES MET BLUE £5,795 A

2005 55 TOYOTA AVENSIS T3-X AUTO 5DR AIR CON CD ALLOYS ELEC PACK 25500 MILES METALLIC BLUE £7,295 A

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VAUXHALL

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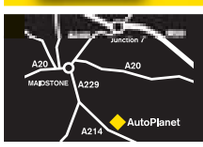
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Summer flights will link KIA to Scottish capital

Flybe's tartan skies

By **STEVE LOADER**
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

BUSINESSES in Kent expect big commercial opportunities from a direct air link with Edinburgh.

The Scottish capital – the UK's second most prosperous city after London – is the destination for an all-new route out of Kent International Airport at Manston.

The 80-minute daily flights will be operated from May 27 to October 30 by Flybe and priced from an attractive £24.99 one way, including taxes and charges, and using a 78-seat Bombardier Q-400 turboprop aircraft.

There are two-way tourist opportunities, but also big commercial openings for Kent firms using a new link to one of Europe's biggest financial centres, home to blue chip financial houses including Royal Bank of Scotland, Scottish Widows and Standard Life.

The city is also known for electronics and IT, publishing and brewing. Caledonian Brewery is now the sole beer producer, but Scottish and Newcastle still has its headquarters there.

Sandra Matthews-Marsh, of award-winning Visit Kent, said: "Thanks to Kent International and Flybe we will be able to open up new opportunities and markets for passengers flying from Edinburgh to Kent both for business and pleasure.

"Kent and Edinburgh are both great destinations and being able to work together is a remarkable opportunity for putting creative marketing campaigns and itineraries together to entertain a wide range of guests."



THE HIGH ROAD: Flybe flights to Edinburgh from Kent International at Manston will be a boost for business and pleasure travellers alike

Fran Warrington, also at Visit Kent and responsible for inward tourism investment and support to the county's tourism, leisure and hospitality businesses, said: "This is a marvellous start to the year for everyone involved in tourism in Kent and a real boost for business in a difficult economic climate."

KIA chief executive Matt Clarke was positive, too: "I'm sure this route will be hugely popular because Edinburgh is such a great place to visit with its history, culture and world-famous festivals."

Flybe spokesman Mike Rutter said: "We're delighted to be adding this new service to the South East from Edinburgh and also to being the first carrier to offer travellers a scheduled service out of Kent International.

"We expect the route to be popular both with business travellers and those planning holidays or weekends away."

Edinburgh, affectionately known as 'Auld Reekie' attracts a million visitors a year, making it the UK's number two tourist destination after London.

Make 'IT' good, demand bosses

BOSSES want good IT skills from employees as Kent drives to put recession behind it, but a new survey highlights a shocking lack of knowledge, ability and confidence.

The findings come from online and work-based training firm LearnDirect, which spoke with companies and staff across Kent and the South East, and found that even everyday IT skills can help people earn more, keep a job or get a new one.

Despite this, nearly two-thirds (60 per cent) of workers aren't confident they can use computer technology, with 22 per cent admitting to having to redo work, cover up mistakes, or deal with an angry boss because they lacked the right skills.

Some even confessed to struggling with simple and widely-used IT terms: 47 per cent don't understand the meaning of the term 'mail merge', 12 per cent don't know what is meant by 'web page' and 11 per cent can't explain what an 'inbox' is.

Premium

Yet even they realise that computer literacy is seen as essential to their job – only a good grasp of English and communication skills are seen as more important.

And the survey confirms they need to brush up fast in a market where jobs remain at a premium, because their current or would-be boss is only too well aware of the need for better understanding: 59 per cent of companies across the region say they would consider increasing a salary offer to attract someone who has the ability to use applications such as email, word processing, spreadsheets, presentations and the internet.

Most South East businesses (88 per cent) would ask about a job applicant's ability to use a computer; 72 per cent say these skills are a 'must' for all employees. Outside the workplace, 38 per cent of people say being computer literate saves them money on bills and shopping, and more than a quarter (26 per cent) say it helps them assist the kids with homework.

LearnDirect's Malcolm Ming said: "A majority of jobs now need staff who know how to use computers, so it's crucial people aren't left behind as IT becomes central to working life."

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By **LIZ RULE**
Pharon Independent Financial Advisers Ltd

SO FAR in 2010, the outlook for investors has been much the same as the weather: sunny, spring-like days replaced by winds bringing heavy falls.

Early January saw equity markets continue moving higher as investors took heart from the reporting season which, in most cases, showed companies had emerged reasonably well from the worst global recession in a generation.

Unfortunately, comments from US President Obama concerning a crackdown on risk taking by banks saw financial stocks once again drag equity markets down.

The weakness spread to other areas as investors began to fear the implications of the withdrawal of financial stimulus measures around the world.

Even emerging markets failed to provide much support to investors after news of China's plans to slow its economy down due to fears of overheating.

Bailout

Fixed interest markets have also had a mixed year so far, with Government debt instruments (gilts) falling over fears of the cost that the bailout of Greece would have on already high debt levels of other European governments.

Company debt instruments (corporate bonds) have provided investors with some protection.

So, looking ahead for the rest of 2010, the current weakness could be an opportunity to buy; we believe earnings forecasts will continue to be upgraded as analysts' forecasts continue to be overly pessimistic in much the same way as they were overly optimistic during 2007 and early 2008.

Be wary of gilts given the amount of Government debt, be patient with equity investments and be prepared to take profits in areas that have performed very strongly, then recycling them into areas that have been lagging.

You could consider the use of a multi-manager fund, as these provide you with ongoing active management of the various assets classes, in a cost-effective and tax-efficient manner. This, I believe, demonstrates the benefit of regular reviews of your investments.

Mopping up the USA

By **STEVE LOADER**
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

RECENT calls for a return to the UK's traditional export strengths are being heeded by a Rochester company.

Component Force, manufacturer, stock holder, distributor and supplier of one of the largest ranges of plastic, vinyl, nylon, rubber and foam parts, has taken on a £688,000 EFG (enterprise finance guarantee) loan from NatWest to expand into new premises and international markets.

The company – brainchild of entrepreneur Paul Gardner – has more that 15 years' experience in the manufacturing industry, predominantly operating across the South East, but challenging increasingly overseas and about to expand into the USA.

It employs 25 people and recently reported 24 per cent year-on-year growth, with plans to become a £10 million a year turnover concern within the next five years.

Such growth needed more space for stock, so the NatWest loan includes provision for a new 20,000 sq ft premises and large yard at the Airport Industrial Estate, Rochester, to be fully occupied by the end of March.

Mr Gardner said: "We are delighted with our expansion into the US market, which is testament to how we have grown the business since inception. The opportunities this will bring on an international level are a significant step towards the ongoing growth of Component Force and we take comfort that we have a banking partner on board that fully supports these aspirations."



CLEAN BREAK: NatWest's Bob Rowbotham and Helena Louka with Paul Gardner (sitting)

NatWest relationship manager Helena Louka said: "Working with Paul, it was clear from initial conversations that Component Force is an innovative company with a passion to expand. The company's year-on-year growth instilled me with confidence to provide funding facilities and the EFG scheme best suited Paul's ambitions."

NatWest/RBS leads the field in the Government-backed EFG scheme, with more than £264m of loans agreed or in the pipeline.

To view search 'business' @ yourkenttv.co.uk



Steve Loader introduces the KOS Media weekly look at business in the county

Scepticism won't put food on the nation's tables

IT'S a fact that we don't want to believe warnings about potential threats – especially when they are of a serious nature, *writes Pat Crawford.*

Hence revelations that some research in relation to climate change is flawed has quickly created more sceptics than there were.

Fact is, whether due to climate change or not, sea levels are rising, already resulting in land loss around the globe.

If levels rise at predicted rates, we know that some parts of Kent will be affected. Inevitably, this will cause people to lose their homes and need to be relocated, putting additional pressures on land.

Valuable agricultural land will also be lost, at a time when we are more and more dependant on increased food production. Already we are asking farmers to produce more and the rural sector to respond to new challenges.

But these also present fresh opportunities in some of the most vital industries of all.

Agriculture and horticulture involve hands-on farming, but also research and development – plant research is crucial to our ability to feed an increased world population – and the development and use of technologies.

Agronomy and sustainable farming will become increasingly inseparable.

Marketing and the way we transport foodstuffs will become even more important factors. The resurgent industry needs bright, motivated, concerned people of all ages who would like to make a difference in terms of achieving food security. They may previously have dismissed agriculture and horticulture as not worthwhile, with little or no career progression, but those times are surely changing.

Judging by Hadlow College, recognition that farming is vital to our future is growing as its director of finance and resources, Mark Lumdson-Taylor, explained: "Applications for both further and higher education courses in all branches of horticulture are up.

"Whereas just six years ago the college had only two students studying agriculture, there are now well over a 100. Our Fresh Start programme is designed to enable anyone, of any age and from any background, to investigate a career in farming and is free to applicants. The programme is proving so popular we are considering structuring a further series."



FOOD FOR THOUGHT: Hadlow College students growing pepino fruit

At the same time, he admits to a potential failure: "The industry still has problems persuading people that it embraces far, far more than hands-on farmers – although they will, of course, always be the bedrock."

Surely this shows a need for schools, parents, career advisors and young people themselves to look at the much broader picture?



CANTERBURY-based HR solutions provider Select Software UK has been sold for an undisclosed sum to the Access Technology Group in a deal overseen by BCMS Corporate.

Founded in the cathedral city more than a decade ago by MD Julian Kirkness, Select specialises in software for HR and customer relations departments.

Mr Kirkness wanted to leave the business and instructed corporate finance company BCMS Corporate to find a suitable buyer for Select, which employs 35 people nationwide.

Essex-based Access, a business and accounting solutions provider, plans to market both companies' suites of products to respective clients.

Mr Kirkness said: "When I decided to exit the business I was determined the buyer would need to add real value and I believe Access Technology Group will do exactly that."

Lynda Sharp, for Berkshire-based BCMS, said: "I am confident both businesses will continue to excel."

SPITFIRES – Kent County Cricket Club's limited-overs team – is one of 18 first-class county sides joining a new domestic 40-over competition sponsored by Clydesdale Bank.

The three-year deal for Clydesdale Bank 40 follows up on the bank's support for the domestic Twenty20 competition between 2005 and 2009.

Apart from familiar county rivals, the Spitfires will also be pitted against sides representing Scotland and Holland, plus an ECB Recreational XI, leading to a final at Lord's on on September 18.

Southern regional director Adrian Wenn said: "The 40-over competition has been adapted this year to further increase its appeal and it is exciting for Clydesdale to be part of cricket's further development. As well as traditional cricket fans, we hope new supporters who have taken to the Twenty20 game will join us in supporting the Clydesdale Bank 40."

SOME of the biggest names in the security industry attended Ward Security's third annual employee awards dinner.

Guest of honour was Baroness Ruth Henig CBE, chairwoman of the Security Industry Authority, along with Security Watchdog chairman Terry O'Neil, chief exhibitor of the crown jewels Keith Hanson, and more than 100 staff and clients of the Rochester-based company.

The event was held at Oakwood House, Maidstone, where guests also enjoyed a speech by Moira Cameron, the first ever female yeoman warder, or Beefeater, at the Tower of London who is charged with protecting the crown jewels.

But Ward Security employees honoured on the night were judged the real gems.

Employee of the Year was Peter Smith, a long-standing security officer, who picked up his engraved trophy along with £1,000 of holiday vouchers.

The company itself also picked up the Security Watchdog Silver Fox Award for audited customer service.

Demelza Hospice Care for Children's vice-president, the broadcaster and journalist Martyn Lewis, is to present the charity's annual business awards, which recognise the hard work of its corporate supporters.

The event will be held at the Marriott Tudor Park Hotel, Maidstone, on Friday, March 5.

Demelza runs an eight-bed hospice near Sittingbourne and a new six-bed site at Eltham, providing short break care, day care, symptom control, end-of-life care and bereavement support.

Two of our best on the shortlist

TWO Kent business leaders have reached the finals of the region's prestigious Institute of Directors' London and South East Director of the Year competition, ***writes Steve Loader***.

Mark Lumsdon-Taylor, 35, finance director at Hadlow College, near Tonbridge, has been nominated for the Chairman's Award for not-for-profit organisations in the business 'Oscars' sponsored by PricewaterhouseCoopers.



COLLEGE: Mark Lumsdon-Taylor

Paul Winter, 61, MD of Wire Belt, Sittingbourne, has been shortlisted as International Director for businesses with a turnover up to £4.99 million.

Mr Lumsdon-Taylor is credited with reviving the financial fortunes of the Kent's sole surviving agricultural college.

Seven years ago, Hadlow was selling its best assets to stave off bankruptcy, yet now has a student headcount expanding every year – with stiff competition for places – and also runs a burgeoning commercial arm including dairy herds, farms and farm shops.

He told businessforkent.co.uk this week: "The college was in a dilapidated state and student numbers were plummeting. The sensible course would have been to close it down, but I felt Hadlow could be saved – and there was the same belief among the staff. It was also inconceivable that a county known as the Garden of England would not have an agricultural college. We had to try."



MILESTONE: Paul Winter of Wire Belt

Of his nomination, Mr Winter said: "I have been with Wire Belt for more than 30 years and during that time we have been able to grow our export percentage to 57 per cent.

"A milestone was reached with our first sale to Oman, which allowed us to prove the worldwide appeal of our conveyor belting.

"From that day, we were able to claim we exported to countries beginning with every letter of the alphabet, other than X."

Both Kent finalists will attend a champagne reception and gala dinner at the Landmark Hotel, London, on March 23 for an Oscars-style ceremony hosted by GMTV's Emma Cosby, with Gerald Ratner, former chief executive of Ratners jewellers, as keynote speaker.

John Minards, regional leader at PricewaterhouseCoopers, said: "The standard of applicants this year was extremely high and we would like to congratulate all those that made the shortlist.

"It was fantastic to see so many business leaders come forward that have taken steps to manage and develop their business through one of the most challenging periods in recent economic history."

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OD: £1,044

NATWEST INT SOLS
RT: FIXED **R%:** 4.39% **L:** 75% **U:** 31/03/2012
OD: £529

BM SOLUTIONS
RT: FIXED **R%:** 5.29% **L:** 75% **U:** 31/03/2013
OD: £2,174

OTHER

NORTHERN ROCK
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 2.65% **L:** 70% **U:** 01/04/2012
OD: £1,030

ABBEY
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 2.49% **L:** 70% **U:** 2 YEARS
OD: £1,290

MORTGAGE BOX – ACCORD
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 2.49% **L:** 75% **U:** 28/02/2012
OD: £2,285

ALLIANCE & LEICESTER
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 1.84% **L:** 70% **U:** 2 YEARS
OD: £2,310

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LIFE COVER COMPARISON

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MALE AGED 25		FEMALE AGED 25	
AVIVA	£7.25	AXA	£5.99
AXA	£7.34	LEGAL & GENERAL	£6.05
AVIVA SIMPLIFIED	£7.82	AVIVA	£6.05
LEGAL & GENERAL	£7.85	LV=	£6.38
SCOT EQUITABLE	£8.20	AEGON SCOT EQ	£6.70
SCOT PROVIDENT	£8.35	AVIVA SIMPLIFIED	£6.76
LV=	£8.55	FRIENDS PROVIDENT	£6.91

MALE AGED 40		FEMALE AGED 40	
BRIGHT GREY	£17.37	AXA	£14.03
AXA	£17.41	ZURICH	£14.05
ZURICH	£17.50	BRIGHT GREY	£14.19
AVIVA	£17.68	AVIVA SIMPLIFIED	£14.21
AEGON SCOT EQ	£17.84	LEGAL & GENERAL	£14.30
LEGAL & GENERAL	£18.05	AEGON SCOT EQ	£14.36
AVIVA	£18.35	AVIVA	£14.75

• THESE RATES CANNOT BE GUARANTEED AND ARE CORRECT AT THE TIME OF GOING TO PRESS

Show goes on as the revived Stag sets stage

SEVENOAKS' Stag Plaza conference venue in London Road is to launch a business show next month – just weeks after celebrating a rescue package for the venue.

The show, on March 24, is being staged in association with Sevenoaks and District Chamber of Commerce with free entry for delegates.

It is designed to give business visitors a chance to learn more about services, technology, training and products to enhance their skills and boost efficiency.

Linda Larter, chief executive of The Stag Community Arts Centre, said: "We are pleased to offer our conference centre in the centre of the town to host the first event and give a boost to local business."

She is also clerk to Sevenoaks town council, which took over the ailing venue in early 2009 and successfully relaunched it by staging 200 shows, 1,800 cinema screenings and selling some 63,000 tickets during 2009.

This culminated in December with Sevenoaks council reaching agreement for the town council to run the arts centre on a 25-year lease.

Ms Larter said: "The past year has been a testimony to the loyalty and perseverance of local people and wellwishers."

But she added that much work had also been done to make the venue more versatile, with the Plaza facility recently opening up for weddings, and now what is hoped to be the first of a series of business shows.





Successful conference organisation

Why everyone needs a 'fixer'

GET yourself a 'fixer' if you want to stage or host a successful conference – that's the top tip from hospitality experts.

By **STEVE LOADER**
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

"Even the biggest and most experienced hotels have been known to fall down on conferences, simply because too many people are liaising with the client organiser," British Hospitality Association spokesman Miles Quest told BusinessforKent.

"It's vital that all details are channelled through one person on each side and that the venue and client 'fixers' are both on hand to get things back on track if they start to go wrong.

"Every detail of the event must be checked and agreed beforehand to minimise possible hitches. Face-to-face contact is best and both sides must look to be confident about the other.

"The risk is biggest in a major venue because different responsibilities can be split between two or three people – more if there are staff shifts to take into account.

"In these circumstances, it's best to suspend normal working arrangements and designate one person to handle a key conference and the customer concerned – in short, you need a fixer. Another key point is getting the 'welcome' right – this can set the tone for the whole conference."

Mr Quest added that getting this wrong was an even greater crime at present with the economy and budgets fragile and companies questioning every pound spent.

"Venues must offer value for money, if they are to take a share of a diminished market," he said.

However, while he admitted the hotel industry has been badly hit by the UK and global downturn, many had fared better than expected by chasing lower tariff tourist business rather than the lucrative but depressed corporate sector.

But Mr Quest said the BHA believed the worst was over. "It has bottomed out, but we are still flatlining at present," he said.

However, his organisation urged 'Corporate UK' to be more open-minded about conferencing, even in the current climate.

He said: "There has been talk of saving money via video conferencing, but it cannot deliver the atmos-



requires a focal point

phere of a live conference.

"When companies are looking to pull out of recession, what better way is there to communicate the way forward and build confidence and network within your own company or outside?

"Conferences are here to stay."

Numbers may be down, but the value of the UK conference market is too easily underestimated. According to the UK Events Market Trends survey there are well over a million conference-style events, large and small, held in the UK every year, worth a total of £7 billion at last count.

Of those, 60 per cent of the business is taken by hotels, with concert-style venues, training centres and universities being the other key players. The average cost of a conference place with overnight accommodation is £131 per day – daily events are much cheaper at £40 a day.



PLAUDITS: Plan for all eventualities and delegates will thank you

TOP TIPS

Industry experts advise:

- Book early – reckon on a year to get accommodation arranged and travel plans in place for a major event.
- Avoid committees – conference management must be channelled through a 'fixer' on each side of the table to ensure no details are missed.
- Reward early confirmations – use discounts or 'freebies' to help confirm numbers and scale early, and then draw up a schedule that helps build confidence.
- Theme – choose a theme early and promote it to build interest.
- Variety – delegates pick up key messages in different ways so mix and match conference hall, side lectures, syndicate/workshop sessions and social events, but also allow for down time.
- Plan for 'tech failure' – never expect systems to be 'all right on the night'. Stage dummy runs, have a backup and make sure the 'techies' don't disappear.
- Plan for human failure, too – no matter how exalted the speaker, make sure they are rehearsed and familiar with the setting and equipment.
- Don't muddle the delivery – don't distract audiences with visual media, lights and backdrop and don't provide delegates with a copy of the speech. Use technical aids to enhance, not confuse.
- Know who's there – networking is a key part so make sure everyone is badged up and lists of participants are available.
- Hit the high notes – start with a motivating curtain-raiser and send delegates away on another high. Follow up with 'thank you' notes, ask for feedback and check interest for further events.

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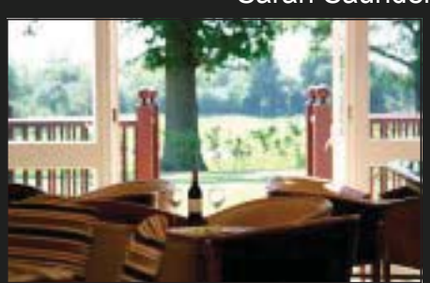


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Timeline

KOS Media sport takes a look at the highlights of all the sporting action from the last 100 years

1910

100 YEARS AGO: BACK in an era when the Kent Senior Cup was regarded as something worth winning, as opposed to a localised version of the Carling Cup, the competition suffered a "disastrous" weekend when bad weather hit the county.

The inclement weather meant gates for the two semi-finals were in three figures instead of the expected four.

Special trains were laid on to take Maidstone United and Chatham fans to Sittingbourne, where their semi-final was taking place at the Bull Ground. However, only 400 fans turned up and the spectacle was ruined by a gale-force wind.

Maidstone were on top in the second-half, but with both defences in form, chances were at a premium and when they did arrive the strikers were found wanting. After 90 minutes the game finished 0-0, forcing a replay at Priestfield the following Saturday.

In the other semi-final, held at Gravesend, Northfleet United beat Dartford 1-0 thanks to a 65th-minute winner from Myers.

1960

50 YEARS AGO: CUTBACKS were announced at Priestfield, with Gillingham announcing it would field just two senior sides, the first-team and the reserves, from the start of the 1960-61 season.

The playing staff would be cut to 15 professionals, with the numbers made up by part-timers.

"We cannot continue to be a Fourth Division club on First Division lines," chairman Joe Leech said.

Leech was also concerned by apathy towards the club: "Some people advocate a public meeting to try and get support and interest in the club, but only this week a similar step was taken at Portsmouth and only 100 people turned up. We feel the same might happen at Gillingham."

1985

25 YEARS AGO: CHRIS Cowdrey suffered a potentially serious injury while touring Australia with England.

The Kent all-rounder was batting in a one-day game with Victoria State when he was hit on the arm by a rising delivery. Two X-rays proved inconclusive, leaving the ex-Tonbridge schoolboy a worried man.

"Specialists say once the swelling has gone down I could play in four to five days," he said. "But there is another bone that doesn't show on the X-rays and if that has gone it could be serious and keep me out for a long time."

If you have any fascinating stories from the above years gone by, email them to us at **sports@kosmedia.co.uk**

22-stone man slims down to make dream reality

Personal trainer goes from fighting the flab to fighting opponents

By **DAVID PRITCHARD**

A FORMER morbidly obese office worker is preparing for his boxing debut next weekend after a change in lifestyle saw him shed more than seven stone.

Nick Aish was an accomplished sportsman in his teens, but a life spent on the road working long hours in recruitment saw his weight balloon to 22st. He found it impossible to keep the weight off while pursuing his career, leading him to make the bold decision to turn his back on a lucrative salary to become a full-time personal trainer.

Now, four years after reaching his peak weight and almost 12 months on from quitting his job, the 38-year-old, from Chatham, is about to achieve his ambition of climbing in the ring.

Aish grew up with boxing in the blood, with his father a talented welterweight who never lost a professional bout.

Inexperienced

After several months of intensive training he now has an opportunity to fight next weekend as part of a White Collar Boxing event at Amadeus Nightclub in Strood.

He said: "I had to make a decision; either keep the job and be unhappy and unhealthy for the rest of my life, or do something about it. It might seem a mad decision, but I've never been fitter. There was no way I would've been able to get any sort of fight for the weight I was.

"It's quite sad really; I was always listening to music and thinking what I'd walk in to. In the back of my mind I thought it was never going to happen. People were laughing at me four years ago when I mentioned it."

While admitting next Sunday's fight, which consists of three two-minute rounds, against another inexperienced fighter is unlikely to begin the start of a glittering new career, Aish is hoping to be competitive.

He said: "It's easy to say it's the taking part that's important, but ultimately just to be able to do it is a great achievement. It's an accumulation of four years' hard work to get into the ring and be taken reasonably seriously."





ROCKY ROAD: Nick Aish (left) before he shed more than seven-stone to achieve his goal

Conway loses crown in sprint finish

SIX-TIME Kent Cross Country champion Mike Conway is already plotting revenge after losing out to Dean Lacy in a dramatic sprint finish for the title last Saturday.

Hundreds of athletes from around the county made the trip to Detling Hill, near Maidstone to compete for the Kent title, but the highlight of the meeting was one of the closest fought senior men's races in the competition's history.

Coleman was aiming to record his seventh consecutive title in the men's senior race and it looked on the cards for him to retain it after a solid start.

However, Cambridge Harriers runner Lacy kept up with the 31-year-old for the entire race before beating him in a sprint finish, which saw both athletes finish with the same time.

Although frustrated to lose, Coleman, who races for Medway & Maidstone, is eager to return to the event for another shot at the title.

He said: "Dean ran really well and for the spectators it must have been great race to watch. It was disappointing to lose after leading all the way, only for him to beat me in a sprint finish over the final 20 metres.

"Dean's improved a lot and hopefully we can have more battles like that in years to come, but I will definitely be back next year to try and reclaim my title."

Aside from the gripping finale to the senior men's race, Medway & Maidstone's Natalie Gray defended her senior women's title, with a commanding display over the 7,200m course.

However, the most successful club at the meeting was Tonbridge AC, who won eight of the 10 team titles and five individual titles.

The club's most dominant performances came in the boys under-13 and under-15 races as they claimed the top four positions in each event.

Highly-rated youngster George Duggan won the under-13 event, while Charlie Joslin-Allen won the under-15 race.



Picture: IGOR KUPCO

BATTLE ROYALE: Dean Lacy (464) pips Mike Conway (611) to the Kent Cross Country title

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Circuit helping convert cash-strapped drivers to the joys of rallycross

By TOM HOWARD

WHILE a significant number of drivers are being forced out of motorsport due to spiralling costs, a rallycross circuit in Kent is helping to buck the trend.

The Lydden Hill rallycross circuit, near Dover, has been scooping up aspiring drivers unable to find deals in other motorsport disciplines and is enjoying a resurgence in competitor numbers.

Motorsport has always been driven by astronomical amounts of money, but rallycross and Lydden Hill have capitalised by offering a much more viable form of top-level motorsport.

In the last two years, the sport has been hit hard by the economic crisis, with Formula One teams Honda, Toyota and BMW all forced to exit. Race series in Britain have suffered too, with the demise of all the works teams from the popular British Touring Car Championship.

Rallycross, however, has become increasingly attractive and driver numbers are on the rise as the sport offers an alternative path to a top-level FIA championship.

One of the reasons for the rise in numbers is the relatively low costs to compete and increasing television coverage.

An eight-round season in the Suzuki Swift Junior Championship costs about £10,000 per season, compared to circuit racing's base level championship, Formula Ford which costs from £35,000 a year.

Lydden Hill's managing director, Amy Doran, says rallycross is experiencing an unprecedented level of interest as a result.

She said: "We signed up a lot more people and juniors, which is great for the sport. It's the total opposite to some of the motorsport disciplines.

"We're getting more competitors rather than losing drivers. We managed to convert at least 10 circuit racers to rallycross at the Autosport Show last month.

"There is not an awful lot you can do to cut cost in this sport, it's just a vicious circle, but we've decided to act now.

"We are trying to push it to get the message out there that for drivers starting out or those already involved in the sport, rallycross is one discipline that ticks all the boxes."



COST OF TAKING PART

RALLYCROSS
Suzuki Swift Championship (Junior): £1,500 per round £10,000 per season
FIA European Rallycross Supercar Championship: £80,000-100,000 per season

RALLYING
British Rally Championship: £500,000 minimum per season

CIRCUIT RACING
Formula Ford (Junior): £35,000-115,000 per season
British Touring Car Championship: £200,000 per season
FIA Formula Two Championship: £275,000 per season



STARTING POINT: Lydden Hill circuit (left) has made rallycross a cheaper alternative

The next 12 months could be a big year for Lydden Hill and rallycross as the sport continues to grow in popularity.

After successfully hosting a round of the European Rallycross Championship last year, the circuit is prepared to host the popular event again on May 31.

With the announcement of American extreme sports superstar Tanner Foust switching to the European Championship for 2010, Doran believes the sport has the potential to become more popular than British Touring Cars.

She said: "In three years' time this could be the thing everyone wants to do. It's got the potential to be huge. The Americans are starting to take notice and if it becomes popular over there, it will have massive impact here."

Regional rugby clubs split over bonus system

THE idea of introducing bonus points into regional rugby has polarised opinion among Kent clubs, with some keen for an extra incentive, but others fearful of complications.

First created for New Zealand's national provincial championship in 1995, the system was trialled at the 2003 World Cup and is now widely used in international and club rugby.

Teams scoring four or more tries in a game are awarded a bonus point, as are sides losing by seven points or fewer, with the intention of encouraging more attacking play and moving the focus away from goal-kicking.

In the English game, bonus points are awarded from the Guinness Premiership down to National League 3 level, but not in London 1 South or below.

Certain to finish mid-table in the top tier of regional rugby this season are Tunbridge Wells, whose chairman, Roger Clarke, would be more than happy for the system to be adopted.

He said: "There should be bonus points awarded if you are within five points of the opposition. It would open the league up a bit, make people more adventurous and provide competition in games where teams are not playing for promotion.

Complications

"It would add some incentive and I will continue to push for it within the Kent RFU. It's been introduced for the National League so I can't see what difficulty there would be at our level."

Westcombe Park, in National 2 South, are well-acquainted with the bonus point culture and director of rugby Steve Reynolds confirmed more free-flowing rugby is played as a result.

"It definitely does make a difference," he said. "It encourages quality rugby and it takes the kicking game away a little bit.

"When you're playing a side which is running away at the top, you target that as a 'one-point game' and you step up to try to keep the score within seven points."

Clarke and Reynolds' views are not shared by Deal & Betteshanger director of rugby David Storrie, though, despite the London 2 South East side also facing up to the reality of a mid-table finish.

"I don't think it would work," he said "The only people to benefit would be teams who have already brought in hugely important players, like Tonbridge Juddians.

"We need more complication like a hole in the head and it would only put more pressure on the people who run the league."

Spencer wary of Irish challenge

HAVING made the perfect start to the Women's Six Nations championship, England captain Catherine Spencer insists the best is yet to come from her side.

The former Folkestone number eight scored two tries in last Saturday's 41-0 win in Italy (pictured), a win which sent England two points clear at the top of the table after two rounds of fixtures.



The Red Roses are yet to concede a point in the competition after cruising to a 31-0 home win over Wales in their first outing, and Spencer is keen for the shut-out to continue when Ireland provide the opposition at Esher RFC on Saturday.

She said: "We've worked really hard on our defence over the last year and that's been demonstrated by the first two games.

"The win is our priority, but if we can keep people away from our line that's a bonus.

"We were obviously pleased with the scoreline [against Italy], but it was not our most polished performance."

Ireland were beaten 19-9 by France in their last game, but Spencer says England must raise their game following a number of increasingly tight games against the Irish in recent years.

England remain on course for the Grand Slam which eluded them last year, when Wales upset the 10-time champions by winning 16-15 in Taff's Well.

Spencer said: "It was important to make the best possible start, especially after the disappointment of losing to Wales last year.

"Ireland and France will be really tough games this year. Ireland have been getting better year-on-year, we've had a couple of close games against them and they're playing more expansive rugby these days."

Practice makes perfect for Kirk

THERE is a new focus and hunger about Kirk Shepherd as he sets out on the qualifying road to the UK Open at Swindon's Oasis Leisure Centre today.

Billed as 'the FA Cup of darts', the tournament climaxes at the Reebok Stadium, Bolton in June, when 128 players enter an unseeded draw to compete for the winner's cheque of £50,000.



Shepherd (pictured) will qualify for the finals if he reaches the last eight in Swindon today, but knows he must significantly step up his performance after losing 6-1 in the first round of the Players Championship in Gibraltar a fortnight ago.

The 23-year-old beat John Part in the World Championships before crashing out 4-1 to Mark Webster and admitted he had travelled to Gibraltar severely under-prepared.

"I was awful in Gibraltar and that was my own fault," he said.

"After the World Championships there were no competitions for a month and I hadn't been practising as I should.

"I laid off the practice and it showed, but over the past two weeks I've really been nailing it on the practice board."

Shepherd's early exit at Alexandra Palace saw him drop out of the world's top 32, something which he is keen to rectify quickly. With £6,000 on offer for today's winner, the hard work starts now if the 2008 world runner-up is to rediscover his best form.

He said: "I was playing my best darts when I was out of the top 32 two years ago, which is something I can take heart from. I know I need to improve my scoring – finishing has always been my strong point, but I need to start scoring more heavily."



JOIN UP: Brands will host Superleague

Superleague on calendar for Brands

BRANDS Hatch is set for another action-packed season of top-level motorsport after confirming its calendar for 2010.

The Kent circuit enjoyed another successful season last year, with the highlights being Ireland clinching the A1GP title, Ashford's Leon Camier wining the first-ever British Superbikes triple header and Colin Turkington clinching the British Touring Car Championship in a dramatic final round.

The latest addition to the circuit is the increasingly popular Superleague Formula Championship. The football themed single-seater race series will replace the outgoing A1GP series from this season.

The championship follows the pattern of A1GP, but the cars race for football clubs rather than nations.

All the cars are identical and powered by V12 engines, which generate speeds in excess of 190mph. The series, which includes former Formula One drivers Antonio Pizzonia and Sebastien Bourdais, will take place on August 1.

The circuit will once again host two rounds of the British Superbike Championship, with August's meeting consisting of three races.

The popular British Touring Car Championship will visit the circuit twice, with the second meeting being the final round of the series. The circuit welcomed a touring car record crowd of 35,000 to witness Turkington clinch the 2009 title last October.

Motorsport fans will also be able to get their fix of touring car action, with the top two championships returning to the circuit.

The World Touring Car Championship and the DTM Championship are also both on the calendar for this coming season.

The first major event of the new season will be the opening round of the British Superbike Championship on April 5.

2010 SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

April 2-5	British Superbike Championship
April 17-18	Truck Superprix
May 1-2	British Touring Car Championship
May 29-31	The Masters Historic Festival
June 27	Modified Live
July 3-4	Historic Superprix
July 11-12	BikeRadar Live
July 17-18	FIA World Touring Car and Formula Two Championships
July 31-August 1	Superleague Formula
August 6-8	British Superbike Championship
September 3-5	DTM
September 25-26	British F3 and GT Championships
October 9-10	British Touring Car Championship
October 16-17	Formula Ford Festival
October 30-31	Truck Superprix

A winter of change at St Lawrence has included a shake-up of the coaching structure at Kent and a change of emphasis. KOS Media sports editor **GLENN PEARSON** speaks to coach Simon Willis about his new role and why he didn't take the top job at Canterbury…



Picture: ADY KERRY

Willis takes on starring role to ensure Kent's future success

HAVING coped admirably when thrust into the position of leading Kent in the absence of a head coach twice in the past six years, a few eyebrows were raised when Simon Willis wasn't given the top coaching job at St Lawrence at the end of last season.

Not because it was former Academy director Paul Farbrace who took over from Graham Ford as team director, but because Willis seemed the natural successor having coached alongside the South African during his four years at Canterbury.

The former county wicketkeeper will instead assume the new role of high performance director this season, tasked with overseeing Kent's youth structure and perhaps more importantly, ensuring the county start providing more home-grown players for the first-team.

The 35-year-old, who was asked to lead the side in 2004 before Ford arrived, and at the start of last season when the South African was awaiting visa clearance, said the decision to bring Farbrace back from Sri Lanka and make him head coach, was the right one.

"Realistically, six years with the first-team was a big commitment for myself and my family," he said.

"If I'm going to do that job I am going to have to go away and come back because you get close to the players. What you need to do is go away and come back with a bit of energy and spark.

"When Graham Ford made his decision to go, it was felt that a new voice and energy was required at the top level, and there was no problem with that at all.

"It was great that Paul got the job, he's someone I know very well and is someone that has similar beliefs about Kent cricket."

Willis set up and launched the Kent Cricket Academy in 2003, and has since watched the likes of Joe Denly and Sam Northeast come off the production line and progress to the first team.

There is a new crop of youngsters vying for a place in the Rob Key's side, including James Goodman, Alex Blake and Matt Coles, and the job for Willis is to ensure that continuous flow of young talent stays in Kent and they go on to play for the county.

"I will be looking to develop the young players in our system and that's not just on the professional side, it's through the age groups," he said.

"When I set the Academy up, one of the things I was proud of was that I knew every kid that was in our system. If someone asked me about them, I would know a little bit about them and I think that's important going forwards.

"Our goals have slightly changed as a club and we have to produce players from our county and we want to have the best youth structure in the country."

During the summer, the Greenwich-born coach will lead Kent's second team and keep tabs on the young players at different age groups at the club.

He will still be involved with the first-team, as and when required, and admits the task of coaching in the first-class game began to take its toll last summer.

"I noticed towards the back end of last season that I was very tired both physically and mentally and felt that possibly I couldn't give any more at that level," he said.

"That doesn't mean that won't come back in the future, but we'll have to wait and see.

"I have got this new challenge in front of me now and that's what I'm focused on.

"It's enabled me to have bit more time with my family – I have two young girls and it's important I am around for this period of their life. There maybe opportunities in the future that may whet your appetite and you think 'I would like to have a go at that', but I'm not someone that plans far ahead because something I've learned is there are never any guarantees."

Thomas aims for top-10 finish at Winter Games

PRACTICE runs continue on the bobsleigh run in Whistler today, as Kelly Thomas goes through the final preparations before making her Winter Olympic debut next week.

The 29-year-old had trained on the track before the Games in Vancouver, but yesterday the Sidcup-born brakeman got the first taste of the venue since the Olympics began.

The women's competition begins for real on Tuesday, when the field starts with two runs. It is then cut to around 20 sleds for runs three and four on Wednesday, which determine the final standings.

Thomas, who lives in Dartford, is optimistic of at least reaching the final stages after qualifying with GB2 driver Paula Walker by climbing into the world's top-10 before Christmas.

She said: "We'll be looking realistically at hoping to finish in the top-12.

"That would be great, but we will go out looking to beat that and maybe grab a top-10, which would be outstanding."

After holding camps at Salt Lake City and Calgary, hosts of the 2002 and 1988 Winter Olympics respectively, Thomas arrived in Vancouver with the rest of the British team last week.

Writing in her online blog, the opening ceremony was the highlight of the first few days in the Olympic Park.

She said: "We received a great reception from the Canadian crowd and spotted many Union Jacks flying in the stands.

"The show was amazing and it really dawned on us what we have achieved by getting here and what we want to achieve. A few nerves even settled in prior to walking out into the stadium, exciting times."

• Log on to www.kentnews.co.uk to find out how Thomas performs.



AT THE BACK: Thomas

Striker's return to Gills 'is like coming home'

Fans' favourite glad to be back

By DAVID PRITCHARD

LIVE-wire forward Chris Dickson admitted re-joining Gillingham on loan this week felt like "coming home", and the striker is hoping he can perform well enough to earn a permanent switch this summer.

Gills boss Mark Stimson has been attempting the move ever since the 25-year-old's initial loan spell at Priestfield expired in December, 2007.

Dickson's 11 goals in 14 games lit up an otherwise dire relegation season and sufficiently impressed the club to make repeated attempts to sign him from Charlton (see timeline).

The bond was reciprocated, with Dickson keeping in touch with Stimson and returning in disguise to watch Gillingham while he was out injured at the Valley.

A deal until the end of the season finally went through this week, allowing the forward to return to the scene of his best form as a professional.

"It was almost like this was my breakthrough club," he said. "I had signed for Charlton, but the first club I made some form of a name at was Gillingham. It's like coming back home."

Priestfield could become more than just a temporary home for the former Erith & Belvedere hit man, who is out of contract at Charlton this summer.

After making just seven league starts for the Addicks in three seasons, there is a good chance of prising him away and, encouragingly, Dickson is open to the idea.

Worshipped

He said: "There's a possibility it could turn into a permanent move. It's not all down to me, I've got to make sure my performances warrant a permanent contract.

"If I had my way, ideally it would be here because I live locally and obviously the fans are very close to my heart, but at the same time I'll explore my options and see how it goes. If I end up hitting my target of 10 you never know, I'll probably end up staying here because there's obviously a good vibe down here."

Whatever the reason for his success, everyone at the club will be hoping Dickson can pick up where he left off.

Away from the Gills his strike rate has not been anywhere near as impressive, with just six goals from 51 appearances, although the vast majority of those were admittedly as a substitute.

After such a long chase Stimson conceded there was the risk of over-inflated expectations, but backed Dickson to succeed.

He said: "There's always a danger of that, but it's down to the player being realistic with his targets and not getting away from the fact the only way to do it is by working extremely hard and getting your team-mates to put the ball where you want it.

"For him it should be a dream come true because [the fans] worshipped him here before when he was playing, and rightly so with the goals he scored. I expect when his name's announced the roof will be coming off."



PRODIGAL SON: Mark Stimson hopes Chris Dickson can be a success again
Picture: PHIL HOUGHTON

CHRIS DICKSON'S GILLS TIMELINE

DECEMBER 2007
Dickson's loan spell at Gills ends. Despite only playing 14 games, his 11 goals are enough to see him finish the season as the club's top scorer. The record attracts the interest of Ghana, who include the striker in their preliminary squad for the African Cup of Nations.

JANUARY 2008
Dickson scores his first goal for Charlton Athletic, but a knee injury keeps him out for the rest of the season.

JANUARY 2009
Gills boss Mark Stimson makes signing Dickson his priority in the transfer window after the striker hands in a transfer request at the Valley due to a lack of first-team football.

AUGUST 2009
Following promotion via the play-offs, the Gills track Dickson throughout the close season. A fed-up Addicks boss Phil Parkinson finally agrees to sell Dickson… but only in exchange for Gillingham's prize asset, Simeon Jackson.

SEPTEMBER 2009
A deadline day loan move is on the cards, with Dickson believed to be at Priestfield ready to sign. The deal collapses at the last minute and the striker ends up at Bristol Rovers.

FEBRUARY 2010
Dickson joins Gills on loan until the end of the season.



G'DAY: Ian Pulman played in Australia

Pulman hits the right spot Down Under

'WAITING for international clearance' is not a common reason for players to be ruled out of Ryman League fixtures, but Whitstable Town experienced such a situation this week.

After a month sitting on the sidelines, striker Ian Pulman was due to return for the Oystermen yesterday, after a spell playing professionally in Australia.

The 25-year-old left Kent with his girlfriend last May, with vague plans of playing for a club Down Under.

A friend helped get him a trial with Melbourne Knights, a side in the Victorian Premier League (VPL), Australia's second division.

Within two days the former Chelsea youngster was offered a contract.

Pulman said: "I wanted to play at a decent level, but to play at that level was excellent. I was based in Melbourne for six months, playing in front of big crowds up to about 5,500.

"It was full-time, training nearly every day, so it was a great experience."

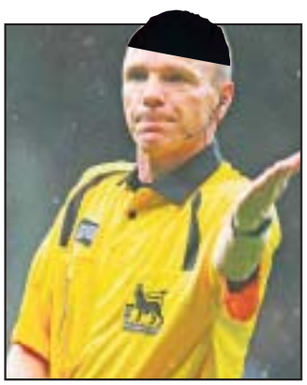
Revelled

Pulman was following in some illustrious footsteps, with former Leeds United star Mark Viduka making his name at the Knights in the mid-1990s, while Robbie Fowler is winding down his career in the division above with North Queensland Fury.

Coming from English football's eighth tier, Pulman revelled playing at a higher level and fellow VPL side Oakleigh Cannons offered him a contract for the new season, which starts this month.

Visa complications mean he cannot return until May, but the striker advised anyone playing at the same level in England to give it a try.

He said: "If you can get the opportunity to do it, do it. It's hard being away from your family and friends, but at the same time you're living a really good life, so you've got to make a decision."



ROLE MODEL: Ref Steve Bennett

Academy hopes to educate new generation of refs

THE Kent FA is hoping to launch a Referee Academy later this year to help the development of county officials as they strive to follow in the footsteps of Premier League referee Steve Bennett, ***writes Glenn Pearson***.

As part of a five-year strategy, the county's Football Association has been battling to try and retain its referees after figures showed the same number of officials coming into the game over the course of a year were leaving after becoming disenfranchised with the sport.

The Respect campaign, which seeks to address the relationship between match officials, players, managers and spectators, has gone some way to reversing that trend, and now the KCFA is launching an academy for referees.

It's hoped the academy, which is scheduled to be ready for September, will help develop young up-and-coming referees who will officiate in games on a weekly basis at Gillingham's Centre of Excellence at the University of Kent in Canterbury.

Jon Newson, KCFA's referees development officer, says officials in the county will get the chance to develop their skills and learn from professional referees in match situations.

He said: "The academy is designed to pull in young referees in a reasonably safe environment at Gillingham's Centre of Excellence in Canterbury – meaning there won't be parents on the sidelines shouting at them.

"It will be a base to coach referees in the hope of taking them onto the next level. They will be coached in a similar manner as Gillingham would develop players to bring them on.

"We would use the Referee Academy to bring along new referees and then sit them down in classroom environment to discuss certain things about the game with some of the top referees we have in the county.

"We would be looking for youngsters that want to put the commitment into being a referee and that will give us a chance to see if they have the ability and we will develop that as required."

The KCFA is in the process of talking to some top referees in the county, such as Orpington' Steve Bennett who officiates in the Premier League, to see if they will lend support for the project and be used as mentors.



KEEPING IT REAL: Montell Douglas will not set any targets just yet
Picture: ADY KERRY

Sprinter not despondent after surgery puts season on hold

MONTELL Douglas' hopes for the new athletics season are in tatters after going under the knife to correct her latest injury.

The 24-year-old sprinter has spent the last three months on crutches following surgery on a knee problem.

It has left the British 100-metre record holder in doubt over when she could return to the track, with the European Athletics Championships in July likely to come too soon.

Douglas, who grew up in Chatham, admitted the injury had forced a major rethink of her goals for 2010.

She said: "I'm not setting any targets because I just don't know when I will fully recover, it's one of those things you can't rush.

"It's definitely changed my hopes for the season, obviously the European Championships were a target, but it looks like I probably won't be able to do that either.

"Luckily we have got a meeting later in the year with the Commonwealth Games [in October].

"I'm looking towards that, but I'm not setting that as a target yet."

The cartilage damage, which required the operation in November, is the latest in a string of problems which have held Douglas back since competing at the Beijing Olympics.

Last season was plagued by knee and foot injuries which saw her miss out on the World Championships.

Although the set-back has been hugely frustrating, the Blackheath & Bromley Harrier runner remains optimistic.

She said: "I'm confident I will recover. I am used to dealing with injuries and I think it will make me a better athlete. Some athletes struggle to cope with injuries if they are not used to it."

Douglas will head to San Diego next month to begin her rehabilitation and warm weather training.

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By **GLENN PEARSON**

New partner signals start for Kent ground's redevelopment

THE £8.2 million redevelopment of Kent's St Lawrence Ground is firmly back on track after the club announced a new housing partner this week.

The club were at the advanced stages of their ambitious plans to redevelop county headquarters in Canterbury two years ago, but the credit crunch and the loss of housing partner Persimmon halted their progress.

The county have now secured a partnership with Bellway plc which will now build on two plots of land bought from the club, on the Bat and Ball site and the county's current net practice area.

A planning application will now be submitted to Canterbury City Council, which incidentally loaned Kent £4 million to help with redevelopment costs in November, with the result expected in three months.

For the club's acting chief executive, Jamie Clifford, it heralds the end of what he admits has been forced to be a long process.

"I'm sure it's taken a lot longer than the general public would have liked, but realistically these things take time," he said.

"Effectively this has taken longer because Persimmon pulled out.

"We have been working on this for a while. We began this process way back when Persimmon pulled out and we put it back out to market and had to start the whole selection process again. It's taken longer than in an ideal world we would have wanted."

The club hope the redevelopment, which includes a hotel, conference facilities, health and fitness centre, stand refurbishment, floodlights and hospitality boxes, will get underway during the summer, but that will be determined by Bellway, which now owns the land.

Clifford said the county are looking forward to working closely with their new housing partner and feel there is finally light at the end of the tunnel, describing the housing deal as a "defining moment".

He said: "It's now up to Bellway as to when they start work and if I'm honest I don't know when that will be, but we will be encouraging them to fit it in around the summer when we have cricket on.

Pictures: ADY KERRY



KENT will interview for the position of chief executive tomorrow and hope to have their new man in place for the club's Annual General Meeting on March 29.

The county have a shortlist of six to interview, which includes acting chief executive Jamie Clifford (pictured right), who took over the reins following the departure of Paul Millman in November.

Club chairman George Kennedy said he received 50 applications after putting an advert in the national press last month and hopes to have made an appointment by the end of March.

"After the interviews on Monday we will make a recommendation to the committee and then narrow it down to just a couple of candidates," he said.

"The AGM is on March 29, so we hope to be able to introduce the new man to members then, but if we appoint someone from outside the club then it could be later."

"It feels like the end of the beginning if you like, but what people don't see is all the work leading up to when that digger arrives to start work, which will be a big thing for people at the club."

Jason Green, managing director of Bellway's south east division, added: "The partnership will allow us to continue to develop a range of high quality homes for people in the Canterbury area.

"The St Lawrence Ground is an iconic venue and presents a wonderful development opportunity."

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